

FREE TRADE.
OR,
THE MEANES TO
MAKE TRADE
FLORISH.

WHEREIN,
The Causes of the Decay
of Trade in this Kingdome,
are discovered :

And the Remedies also to remooue
the same, are represented.

The second Edition with some Addition.

PROPERTIUS.

*Nanita de ventis, de tauris narrat arator :
Enumerat miles vulnere pastor oues.*

LONDON,

Printed by John Legatt, for Simon Waterfon,
dwelling in Paules Church-yard
at the Signe of the Crowne.

1 6 2 2.



THE TRADE

THE M. NEST

THE M. NEST

FLORISH

WARRIN

The Gates of the Day

the Kingdom

the

the

the

the

the

the

the

the

the

the

the

the

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY

248:02

for
the
ma



TO THE
PRINCE.

SIR,



OVR HIGH-
NES is no lesse
Happy to bee
the SONNE of
so great a KING, then to be
the Heire apparent of so
many Kingdomes. In

A 2 the

TO THE

the one, rare endowments of Maieſty and Magnanimity, are Yours by generation: In the other, a Royall Monarchy by inheritance and ſucceſſion. The one doth fit You for the other, and Your Royall FATHERS footſteps for them both. In thoſe are Peereleſſe prints: You cannot caſt Your Eie, but they are preſent to You, and repreſented in You. You ſee in His Religion, Piety:
in

PRINCE.

*in His Sacred Person,
Tranquility : in His
Gouernment, Policy. In
euery one of these, all
these: and all in You. In
that last, His Maiefty
bath carried a quick Eie,
ouer the Commerce of
this Kingdome : because
it hath relation both to
the Reuenue of the
Crowne, and the Com-
mon-wealth of all His
Kingdomes. It is said in
Ezechiels Vision, that
One wheele ran within*

A 3 the

TO THE

the other, which hath an
Emphasis in that tongue,
:האופן בהרד האופן and surely
matters of STATE and of
TRADE, are involued and
wrapt v^p together. Which
latter, because it is at this
time in agitation, and there
are, not without cause, ma-
ny Quære's about the
Causes of the generall de-
cay thereof; hath caused
me to put my selfe on this
Enquiry, to philosophize
if I could, in these Causes
and Remedies. Not
that

PRINCE,

*that I would seeme with
Phormio, to reade a Le-
cture to Hannibal: No,
I haue only mustered and
marshalled these men in-
to their Rancks and Or-
der; it is Yours to Com-
mand them. Great Phi-
lip of Macedon, suffered
a meane musition to say vn-
to him, Absit, vt hæc tu
me melius scias. But for
my part, I dare not in any
thing, put such an absit, to
a PRINCE so absolute.
Euery thing mooues it selfe*

T O T H E

to its Center. These little
lucubrations present them-
selves to your HIGHNES,
as vnto their proper Orb.
For as they looke vp to the
KING, or as they looke
downe to the Kingdome;
In both they looke on Yov,
with a double aspect. Yov
are the Ioy of the KING,
the Hope of all these
Kingdomes. The Only
Sonne Yov are, of the
Only KING: An hap-
py *SEER, of a blessed
SIRE: A Princely
CONSVL,

Ex 7. 1. 7. *
prospexit, pro-
vidit, quasi
pater vidit.

PRINCE.

CONSVL, of the Priuy
Councel: A watchman,
A worthy, of DAVID and
of IACOB.

*These Meditations of
mine, are very meane: an
vnfit obiect for a Princes
sight: vnlesse as Yov are
a God on Earth; in this
also Yov represent the
God of Heauen; to ac-
cept in your Princely par-
don and patience, το' θέλει
ἀντὶ τῆς ἐπεργεῖν. The Cause is
great, your Wisdom's deep,
and my Lord the KING
is*

TO THE

is as an Angell of GOD.
YOV are HIS, HE is
** CHRIST, and CHRIST*
is GODS.

** Not ο Χει-
σός, but Χει-
σός and Χριστός
too,*

Oh GOD, be thou still
the KING and CHRIST,
of this CHRIST Our
KING: Euangelize vnto
this Angel: double the
Spirit of Our ELIAH, on
Our ELISHA: that HE
may flourish like our Palme
Tree, and grow vp like
*our Cedar of * Albion.*
Giue thy Iudgements to
the KING, and thy Iustice
to

** Libanon per
Litterarum
Metastasis,
Albion.*

*From
on W
June
M.D.C.
KIN*

PRINCE.

to the KINGS SONNE:
*And let all the People
offer these sweete Odours
to Thee the God of Hea-
uen, and pray for the life
of the KING and HIS
SONNE.*

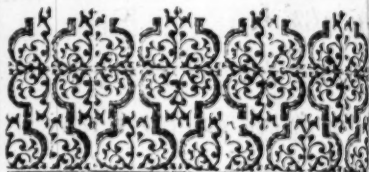
So prayeth, for His Maiestie,
And your Highnesse,

ΑΥΤΟΠΡΑΙΤΗΣ,

EDW. MISSELDEN,

Merchant.

From my House at Harknury
on Wharson Eue, the 8 of
Iune In the yeare of Grace,
M.DC.XXII. And of the
KING of Peace, XX.LV.



To the Reader.



*V*rteous Reader, Si ingratum me dixeris, omnia dixeris. I should haue premised my prayer for thy patience, to cast thine Eie on such a worthless worke: but thou hast preuented me with thy kinde acceptance; euen of the whole Impression, within a very little Interstitium of time. So that now thou hast turned my petition, into a thankesfull retribution: for which accept I pray thee, this second Edition, with some small addition, as a Symbolum of my seruice to the publike.

That I haue proposed any thing to my selfe, then the Commō-good; I hope I shall neede no Apologie: to haue expected to please all men; I might rather haue wished, then

To the Reader.

then imagined any possibility. But if there should be any offence, it shall be Acceptum not Datum, as I shall owne make manifest, if there be any cause of Reply.

Some men aske me, Quorsum hæc Iactura? Wherefore all this cost and wast of learning & languages, in the troddē way of Trade? And tell me that I seem to plow with others Heyfers, as if it were not cōtingent to a Merchant, to be acquainted with the Muses. Surely it is with many, the price of these paines: that litteræ and literati non habent inimicum præter ignorantem. But it is thy humanity rather to ascribe learning to the vnlearned: I feare alas, in mine vnlearned lines, the learned finde Ἀντι το Σωκράτου Ἀνδραγαθία, pro thesauro Carbones. If there were any, I should pray thee to accept it, for illustration of the matter, not affectation in the Author: and to thinke that learning and languages are an Appendix not vnecessary to the facultie of a Merchant. And for supply of other mens learning, to succenturiat my wants, I needed it, I confesse, but tooke it not.

Others tell me, that I seeme to detract something from the Netherlands Nation, and Native Commodities of those Countries.

To the Reader.

tries. But for my part, there are many that Nation, that can report of my loss to either. For the former, as things now stand; I wish we were not Loosers, so we had not this Leauē: yet that which is spoken of the Part, must not alwaies be understood of the Whole. And as I must giue them their due, that they are a very ingenious Nation; so I wish those whom it concerneth, would shew themselves ingenuous also, and deale with us, as freely as fairely, in the Close of this great East India Cause. And for the latter, the learned know, that when Nothing and All things are opposed, what the sense must be: and that alwaies In dubijs benigniora sunt præferenda. Yet least I seem to lacke a Voucher for that I said, let them heare SCALIGER thus writing to their famous DOVSA, on the same subject:

Ignorara tuæ, referam miracula terræ,
DOVSA peregrinis non habitura fidem.
Omnia lunicum hic lassat textrina Minerua:
Lanigeros tamen hinc scimus abesse greges.
Non capiant operas fabriles oppida vestra:
Nulla fabris tamē hæc ligna ministrat humus.
Horrea triticeæ rumpunt hic frugis acerbi:
Pascuus hic tamen est, non Cerealis ager.

To the Reader.

Hic numerosa meri stipantur dolia Cellis :
Quæ vineta colat nulla purator habet.
Hic nulla aut certe seges est rarissima Lini :
Linifici tamen est Copia major vbi ?
Hic medijs habitamus aquis:quis credere possit?
Et tamen hic nullæ, Dovsa, bibuntur aquæ.

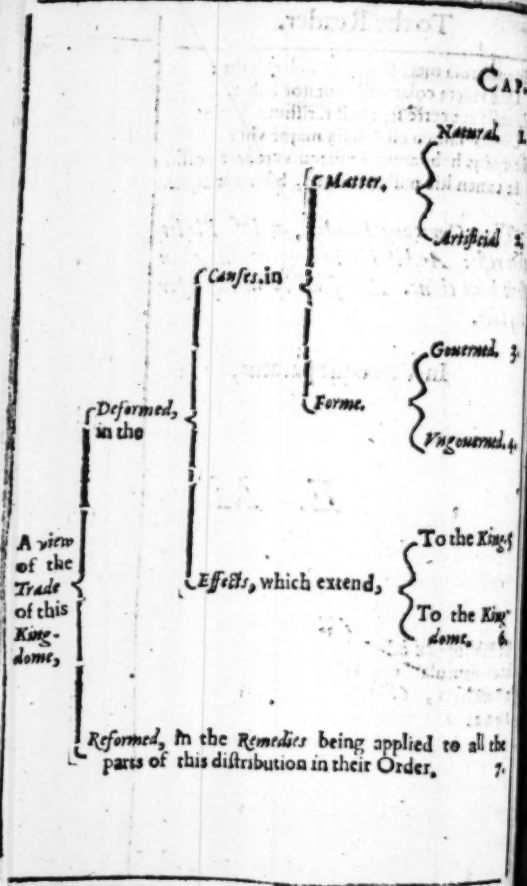
*Thus Curteous Reader, at last I'll let
thee rest : And if I haue longer mine, thou
shalt haue thine. And shall be alwayes for
thy sake,*

In Vtrunque paratus,

E. M.

Ex Bibliopolæ officinâ
hæc paucula raptim
apoonebam, 6. Iulij.

1622.



Gre
Pie
cy,
Nat
nis



CAP. I.

The Causes of the want
of *Money* in
England.



I having pleased
God to giue mee
my *Birth* and *Be-*
ing in this *Good*
Land, and vnder
the *Reigne* of so
Great a KING; whose *Peace* and
Piety, whose *Prudence* and *Poli-*
cy, whose rare endowments of
Nature and *Literature*, *absit om-*
nis adulatio, doe Lend to the
B *Christian*

Christian and *Pagan* world such a *Glorious Lustre*, as that the other *Great Lights* in the *Sphaeres* thereof do seeme *Eclipsed*: I could not but thinke it my bounden duty, in all humble acknowledgement to *Almighty God*, and deuoted seruice to so *Mighty* a *KING*, to endeavour to expresse the same, in some *Publique Service* for the *Publique good*.

The rather for that there seemes to bee a necessity imposed vpon all men, as much as they can, to performe this duty; according to that generall precept, *Feare God, Honour the King*: As if a man could not *Feare God*, vnlesse hee *Honour the King*: nor *Honour the King*, without the *Feare of God*.

And no maruell; when *God* himselfe setteth these duties in the *Frontispice* or top of both the *Tables* of the *Decalogue*: The one *Explicit* in the first *Table*, *Thou shalt*

ὁ δὲ θεὸς ἐπέθηκεν,
τὴν βασιλείαν π-
ματι.

shalt loue the Lord thy God : The o-
ther *Implicit* in the second Table,
Thou shalt honour the King: as if here
were Νόμος and ἄλλος νόμος, A Law
and another Law: yea the whole Law
comprised in these Two: and these
Two termed the *Great Commande-
ments*, to giue a deepe *Impression*
and a liuely *Expression* of so great a
duty.

ὁ νόμος ὁ μὲν
ἀπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ
τὸν ὁμοῖον
αὐτῷ.

Yea, he doth honour *Kings* with
his owne *Title*, as if he would *Part*
with, and *Impart* to them, some of
his owne *Honour*. I haue sayd ye are
Gods: to which that of the Poet may
seeme ἀναλογικῶς. to haue an elegant
allusion, *Diuisum imperium cum loue*
Cesar habet.

In vita Virg.

And this is it I confesse that hath
Raised & Roused mine *Affections*, to
seeke out a *Subiect*, wherein I might
set my selfe a taske, and as it is in the
Prouerbe, might πάντα λίδον λίνισ, to
performe some acceptable seruice,
to so *Great a King*, & so *Good a King-
dome.*

But what need I *Seeke* that which *Seeketh* all men? For what is at this time more enquired after then the *Causes* of the *Decay* of *Trade*? And what can be more fit for my *Meditation*, then that wherein I haue had *Education*? And what hath more relation to matters of *State*, then *Commerce* of *Merchants*? For when *Trade* flourisheth, the *Kings Reuenue* is augmented, *Lands* and *Rents* improoued, *Nauigation* is increased, the poore employed. But if *Trade* decay, *All these* decline with it. Neuerthelesse when I looke vpon the *Face* of the *Great body politique* of this *Weale publike*, and therein consider the *High wisdom* of *His sacred Maiessty*, as the *intellectual part* of this *Microcosme*, or *alter orbis* as *Cesar* calles it: the *Prudence & Prouidence* of *His Nobles*, as the *Eyes* thereof; the great decay of *Trade*, the *Nerves* thereof: together with the *Parliamentation* and

and Consultation of all the *Parts* together about these *Causes* and *Remedies* : I feare I shall seeme *in quibusdam* *David* *cap*, to light a Candle in the Sunne, to offer my seruice in that, about which the choicest wits of the *Kingdome* are now in consultation.

But hauing had experience of His *Maiesties* gracious interpretation of small seruices of his subiects employed for the publique; though *Others* much more sufficient are *Sent before*, yet could I not but expostulate with my selfe, what if I also *Runne after*, and cast in my *word* *me*, into this great *Treasury*.

Therefore if herein, any obseruations of mine, either *Forrein* or *Domesstique*, may administer any thing worthy the information of that *Great common* and yet *not common* sense, I shall esteeme my part most happily acted, to haue imployed my *Private* paines for the *Publique*

good. The rather, for that, as there are many *Causes* *discussed* and *discoursed* of at this time, of the *decay of Trade*; so also are there many *Remedies*: wherein if either the *Causes* be mistaken, or the *Remedies* ill applyed; the present sicknesse of the *Trade*, may be brought from a disease in *Fieri*, to an *Habituated* and in *Facto*, as the *phisitians Schoole* hath it.

*Felix qui potuit
rerum cognos-
cere causas.
Virg.*

The distribu-
tion.

To find out the *Causes* of things, is a worke of *Philosophy*, and much *Felicity*, to finde out a fit *Remedy*, is of high *Eminency*: But to apply the *Remedy*, is a matter of *State* and *Policy*. And this leadeth mee to the *Method* of my *Discourse*: which parts it selfe in twaine: *viz.* Into a *double Quere*, of the *Deformation* and *Reformation* of *Trade*. In the *former* may be considered, the *Causes* and *Effects* thereof. In the *Causes*, the *Matter* and *Forme* of *Trade*. The *Matter* of *Trade*, is either
Naturall

Naturall or *Artificiall*. The *Naturall* matter of *Commerce* is *Merchandize*: which *Merchants* from the end of *Trade* haue stiled *Commodities*. The *Artificiall* matter of *Commerce* is *Money*, which hath obtained the title of *Sinewes* of *Warre* and of *State*.

Old *Iacob* blessing his *Grandchildren*, crost his hands, and laid his right hand on the *Younger*, and his left hand on the *Elder*: And *Money*, though it be in *Nature* and *Time* after *Merchandize*, yet forasmuch as it is now in vſe become the chiefe, I will take leaue of *Method*, to handle it in the first place.

First therefore for the *want* of *Money* in this *Kingdome*, many reasons may bee assign'd. Whereof some are *Immediate*, ſome *Mediate* or remote. The *Immediate* reasons of the want of *Money*, are either ſuch as *Hinder* the

B4 *Importation*

The Immediate cause of the want of Money in England, is the vnder valuation of his Mueſties Coyne, which hindereth the Importation, and cauleth the exportation thereof.

Spanish Reals
worth 15. in the
C. in Holland.

Importation; or as such Cause the *Exportation* thereof. And Both these are occasioned by the *Under-valuation* of his MAJESTIES *Coyne*, to that of our Neighbour *Countries*. For who will procure Licence in *Spaine* to bring *Realles* into *England*, to sell them here at Ten in the hundred game, which is lesse then the *Exchange* from thence will yeeld; when hee may haue for the same *Fine and Twenty* in the hundred in *Holland*? Here five *Reals* of eight, which make *Twenty* shillings sterling, will commonly yeeld *Two and Twenty* shillings or thereabouts: and the same in *Holland* will yeeld *Forty two shillings and six pence* Flemish, which is *Fine and Twenty* shillings sterling. And how can wee choose but want money in *England*, when the *Iacobus* pieces are currant at so high a rate in *Holland*? For there they goe at *Twelve Gilders eight stivers*

Stivers the piece, which is *One* and *forty* *shillings* and *four* *pence* *Flemish*, which is *Four* and *Twenty* *shillings* & *nine* *pence* *sterling*. And about this rate *HIS MAJESTIES* other *Coynes* of *gold* & *silver* are there of respective value. For although by the *Placcets* or *Proclamations* of those parts, the *Iacobus* pieces, & other *Species* of *gold* and *silver*, are there set at indifferent rates answerable to their valuation here with vs respectiue, which they there call *Permissie gelt*, *Proclamation money*: yet they haue other deuices to raise money, and draw it away at their pleasures. As either by their *Banckes*, when the *Banckers* will for their occasions giue a greater price for money then the *Proclamation* suffereth, and then it is called *Banck gelt*: or else by slacke paymasters, that for their owne advantage in the raising of Money, will pretend not to make present payment

Three sorts of
Mony in Hol-
land: Permissi-
on Money:
Banck Money:
and Current
Money.

payment of their debts, vnlesse you take their Money at a higher rate, then either the *Proclamation*, or the *Banck Money*. Which being paid and receiued, produceth a third kind, which they call *Current gelt*. And so by the Connience of the Magistrate, the same goeth from man to man, and at last becommeth current at an excesssiue value So they haue *Permission* or *Proclamation-Mony*, and *Banck Money*, and *Current Money*, and all to draw dry the *Current* of *His Maiesties Coine*.

And thus the *Hepatitis*, or Liuer veine of this *Great body* of ours being opened, & such profusiōs of the *Life blond* let out; & the *Liner* or fountain obstructed, & weakned, which shuld succour the same; needs must this *Great body languish*, and at length fall into a *Marasmus*, or Heēstike Fever.

I am not ignorant that there hath beene great abuse in the culling of *His Maiesties Coyne* here at home,
and

and in melting the heauy money into plate: And that there is a great superfluity of *Plate* generally in priuate mens hands more then is necessary, and farre beyond any example of former times, which must needs also cause scarcity of money: yet on the other side I cannot deny, but that it is better to haue the same in *Plate*, as a *Treasure* of the *Kingdome*; then turned into *Coyne*, and so turned out of the *Kingdome*, by the vnder value thereof.

Now the *Mediate* or remote reasons of the want of money in *England*, are either *Domestique* or *Forreine*. The *Domestique* are *General* or *Special*. The *General* remote cause of our want of money, is the great *Excesse* of this *Kingdom*, in consuming the *Commodities* of *Forreine Countries*, which proue to vs *Discommodities*, in hindering vs of so much *Treasure*, which otherwise would bee brought in, in lieu of those
Toyes.

The Mediate Causes of the want of money are *Domestique* or *Forreine*. The *Domestique* is generally, *Excesse*.

according to old *Cato's* counsell,
Patrem familias vendacem non emacem esse oportet. Otherwise his *Ex-
pence* being greater then his *Reve-
nue*, hee must needs come behind
hand. Euen so a *Common-wealth*
that excesssiuely spendeth the *For-
reine* Commodities deere, and vt-
tereth the *Natiue* fewer and cheape,
shall enrich other *Common-wealths*,
but begger it selfe. Where on the
contrary, if it vented fewer of the
Forreigne, and more of the *Natiue*,
the residue must needs returne in
treasure.

The *Speciall remote cause* of our
want of Money, is the great want
of our *East-India Stocke* heere at
home. Which is a matter of very
great consequence, and causeth the
Body of this *Common-wealth* to bee
wounded sore, through the *Sides*
of many particular members there-
of. For the *Stocke* of the *East-India*
Company, being of great value, and
collected

Νῆπι σι ὑδ' ἴσα-
σιν ὅσον πλῆθον
ἡμῖν πατρὸς,
ὑδ' ὅσον ἐν μα-
λάρῳ τι, καὶ
ἀσφαλὲς ἔστω
ἄνειαυ.
Hesiod.

The domestike
cause in speci-
all, is the want
of the *East-India*
Stocke in
this *Common-
wealth*.

collected and contracted from all the other particular *Trades* of the *Common-wealth*; and a great part thereof having bin *Embargued* and *Detained* now for more then five yeeres last past; and that not by a *Profest Enemy*, against whom wee might haue bin *warn'd* and *Arm'd*, but by a *Friend*, a *Neighbour*, a *Next Neighbor*, ofte obliged to our *King* and *Nation* more then to all the *Kings* on earth: this losse I say, is not onely thus vnkind, but is the more intollerable, in that the *Common-wealth* hath lost the use and employment of the *Stocke* it selfe, and all the encrease of *Trade* which the same might haue produced, in the seuerall *Trades* of the *Subiects*, whereby abundance of *Treasure* might haue beene brought into this land in all this time.

*Crinitus &
Volater.*

It is sayd of *Belisarius* that great and famous *Commander* of the *Romanes*, that euen *Rome* it selfe owed

to him twice her life: and yet at last was so vnkind to *Belisarius* as to put out both his eyes, and exposed him to beg in a little Cottage built without the gates, where hee often repeated this sentence to those that passed by, *Date obolum Belisario, quem inuidia, non culpa cecauit.* And certainly our Nation may challenge as much or more of these *Vnkind Friends*, then *Belisarius* euer did or could of *Rome*: and they shew themselves no lesse vnkinde, to deprive vs of the *Light* and *Life* of this *Trade* of ours, and suffer this *Nation* to vse so much importunity for their owne.

Homer reports of *Patroclus*, that he would needs put on *Achilles* armour, and ride on *Achilles* horse, but *Achilles* speare he durst not touch, and thereby was knowne to *Hector*, with whom he fought, not to be *Achilles*, and so lost his life. These friends of ours haue some-

Hom. Illad.

times

times *Put on*, sometimes *Put off*, I had almost said, *Put out the Kings Colours*: They haue sayled in His subiects *Shippes*, but that *Hastam fidei* they haue not *Vsed* or *Abused* rather; whereby they haue beene *Discovered* to the *Indians*, not to be the *Subiects* of the *Faith's Defender*, as sometimes they would haue *fained*, though to an euill purpose.

The *Romanes* were wont to weepe, at the sight of *Casars bloud* kept in an *Handkercher*. *Casars subiects bloud* is kept, not in *Handkerchiefes* but in *Sheetes*, written *within* and *without*, the *Memory* whereof maketh the people *mourne*. The cry thereof is *gone up*: the *King* will remember it, the *King of Kings* will auenge it.

Constantinus the *Great*, the father of *Constantius*, was wont often to protest, that he made more account of one *Christian* then of *all* his *Coffers*

Church-man.
pag. II.

Plut. in Cas. &
Brut.

Euseb.

fers filled with *Treasure*. And the Comfort of this *Nation* is, to be the *Subjects* of such a *Soueraigne*, who as *Constantly* as euer did *Constantinus*, hath againe and againe profest, *Not to account himselfe more rich or happy, then in the prosperity of his Subjects.*

Thus much of the *Domestique Remote causes* of the want of money in *England*: the *Forreine causes* follow. Which are either in respect of the *warres in Christendome*, or the *Trades out of Christendome*. The *warres in Christendome* are *Forreine remote causes* of the want of money, either by *Causing the Exportation*, as the *warres of Christians*: or *Hindering the Importation* thereof, as the *warres of Pyrates*. I will take the *warres of Germany* for an vrgent instance of the former: which haue rayled the *Riecks daller* from *Two Markes Lubish*, to *Twenty Markes Lubish*, in
C many

In diuers
Orations and
Proclamations.

The Forreine
causes of the
want of money
are the warres
of Christians
amongst them-
selves, or a-
gainst them by
Pyrats.

many places of *Germany* : where-
by abundance of Mony is drawne
vnto the *Mintes* of those Countries,
from all the other *Mines* and parts
of *Christendome*.

And for the latter, I will instance
the *Warres* of the *Pirats* of *Argier*
and *Tunis*, which hath robbed this
Common-wealth of an infinite va-
lue : the *Cruelty* whereof many
feele with *griefe*, others heare with
pitty, but the *grievance* remaines.
Needes must *Christendome*, and in
it *England*, feele the want of mo-
ney, when either it is violently in-
tercepted by *Turkish Pirats*, the
Enemies of God and man; or the in-
struments surpris'd, as *Men, Ships,*
and *Merchandize*, which are the
Channels to conuey it to vs. An *Hea-
thenish* policy it is, or *Hellish* rather,
put vpon the *Princes* and *People* of
Christendome by the *Grand Sig-
nour*, to hold with them an out-
ward forme of *Amity*, and in the
meane

A Turkish
policy.

meane time by his vassalls, vse a cunning and couert *Hostility*.

The other *Forreine remote causes* of the want of Money, are the *Trades* maintained out of *Christendome* to *Turkey*, *Persia*, and the *East-Indies*. Which trades are maintayned for the most part with ready Money, yet in a different manner from the *Trades* of *Christendome* within it selfe. For although the trades within *Christendome* are driuen with ready Monies, yet those Monies are still *Contained* and *Continued* within the *Bounds* of *Christendome*. There is indeede a *Fluxus* and *refluxus*, a *Flood* and *Ebbe* of the monies of *Christendome* traded within it selfe: for sometimes there is more in one part of *Christendome*, sometimes there is lesse in another, as one Countrey wanteth, and another aboundeth: It commeth and goeth, and whirleth about the *Circle* of *Christendome*,

Or the trades maintained out of *Christendome* with ready money.

but is still contained within the *Compasse* thereof. But the money that is traded out of *Christendome* into the parts aforesaid, is continually issued out and neuer returneth againe. It is true, those trades tend to an admirable encrease of the stocke of *Christendome* in wares: which if they were purchased with the wares of *Christendome*, according to the true nature of *Commerce*, the benefit were farre more excellent. For *Commercium* is quasi *Commutatio mercium*, a change of wares for wares, not money for wares. And it is *Libera commeandi facultas*, ab ijs qui merces ultro citroque conuehunt.

Or if the *Common-wealth* of *Christendome* were like to that of **Utopia*, where gold and siluer are of esse esteeme then Iron, it were a braue exchange to lose money to get wares. For the riches of former ages did not consist in *Re Pecuniaria*

Bonuenus
Strac. de merca-
tur pars. 1.
Calepiu.

* Aurum & ar-
gen. um sic apud
se habent, et à
nullo plaris as-
metur cum re-
rum ipsarum na-
tura mercatur.
quâ quis non vi-
det quare longè
inf. a ferrum
sunt?
Utop. lib. 2.

niaria

e want

thin the
e money
istendome
continu-
returneth
des tend
se. of the
n wares:
ased with
e, accor-
of Com-
re more
m is qua-
change of
oney for
mmeandi
ultroci-

realth of
o that of
uer are of
it were a
money to
s of for-
Re Pec-
niaria

of Money in England. CAP. I.

21

niaria but *Pecuniaria*. Whence *Pecuniaria*, as *Pliny* affirmeth, was so called a *Pecude*, quia *Pecus* fuit *Pecunie* fundamentum, & antiquitus *Pecunia* pecudis effigi signabatur. But when *Immooveable* and *Immutable* things came also to be in *Commerce* amongst men, as wel as those things which were *Moooveable* and fit for change, then came money in vse, as the rule and square whereby things might receiue estimation and value. Therefore the *Ciuitians* affirme that *Numus est à p^{ro}p^{ri}o t^{em}p^{or}e dictus, quod institutum sit Ciuile*. According to that of *Aristotle*. *Numus quia à p^{ro}p^{ri}o t^{em}p^{or}e in p^{ar}te p^{ro}p^{ri}etatis, à dⁱca p^{ro}p^{ri}etate est. Numus non est à natura sed à l^{eg}e*. And thence it is that *Money* in our tongue is deriued of *Moneta*, quasi *numi nota*.

Or if there were a *Necessity* to *Christendome* to vse those *Forreine* wares: or that the *Meanes* whereby they are to be procured, were without the losse of treasure:

C 3

or

Omnes veterum diuitie in re pecuniaria consistebant.

Guich. Plin. lib. 33.

Lib. 1. ff. de Contrah. emt.

Lib. 5. Eub. cap. 8.

*Necessarium
illud dicitur
sine quo fieri
non potest.
Calep.*

or lastly that the same tended to the *Encrease* of the *Treasure* thereof, the exchange were excellent. But first there is no such *Necessity*: for that's necessary to doe a thing without which it cannot be done: And that's necessary to the being of a *Common-wealth*, without which it cannot subsist. But thanks be to God, *Christendome* is richly furnished within it selfe, with all things fit for life and maintenance: whether wee respect *Vitall* vse, as foode and raiment: or *Physicall*, as vegetables and mineralls: or *Politickall*, as gold, siluer, and infinite variety of Merchandize. Nor are those wares procured without the *Losse* of *Treasure*, no nor with *Lesse* *Treasure*. For as those wares haue cost lesse in *Price*, since some late discoueries; so are they encreased in their *Quantities*, by the ample trade of all parts of *Christendome* thither, more then before: and then

then who knoweth not that a *Lesse* quantity *Deare*, and a *Greater* quantity *Cheape*, is all one in respect of the value. Nor is the treasure lessened by changing the course of Trade into those parts. For the *New* Trades found out, are furnished with a new supply of Money, and the *Old* neuerthelesse issue out as much treasure as before: by reason that the same are enlarged and become now as great, *Apart*, as heretofore they were, *Together*, when the *New* Trades, were included in the *Old*. So that now so much more of the Treasure of *Christendome* is wasted, as those *Old* and *New* Trades are encreased, which is to an infinite value.

Nor lastly, is the *Treasure* of *Christendome* *Encreased* by those forreine trades, for the more the stocke of *Christendome* is thereby encreased in *wares*, the more it decreaseth in *Treasure*: which the parts of

Christendome must needs feeble by *Sympathy* and *Compassion*.

15. Hen. 8 Hall.

And this, that prudent and politique Emperour *Charles* the fifth perceiued in his time, who vpon a question betwixt the *Spaniards* and *Portugals* about this matter, the Emperor vsed words to this effect: *You Portugals for a surety, are enemies to all Christendome; for you carry nothing out of it but coyne, which is hurt to all Countries.*

CAP. II.

The Causes of the decay of Trade, in the Merchandize of England.

SVch are the *Causes* of the *Matter* of *Trade* considered in the *want* of *Money*, the *Merchandize* followeth. *Merchandize* is that naturall matter of *Commerce*, whereby men busie

busie themselves in buying and selling, chopping and changing, to the encrease of *Artes*, and enriching of *Common-wealths*: according to that of the *Poet*, *αγαθή δ' ἐστὶν ἡδὲ βροτῶν, Bona lis mortalibus hæc est.*

Hesiod.

And to the end there should be a *Commerce* amongst men, it hath pleased *God* to invite as it were, one Country to traffique with another, by the variety of things which the *One* hath, and the *other* hath not: that so that which is wanting to the *One*, might be supplied by the *Other*, that all might have sufficient.

Which thing the very *windes* and *Seas* proclaime, in giuing passage to all Nations: the *windes* blowing sometimes towards one Country, sometimes toward another; that so by this *Diuine Iustice*, euery one might bee supplied in things necessary for life and maintenance.

And

3.4.Na.qu.

Εἰς γὰρ ἡ μετα-
βατική πάντων
ἀρχαμένη, τὸ μὲν
ᾧ ὄντων ἐν τῷ
χρὶ εὐσιν, τὸ
τὰ μὲν πλείω, τὰ
δὲ ἐλάττω ἢ
ἰκανῶν ἔχειν
τὸ ἀνδράπευε,
μεταβατικὴν
ἀναπλήρουν
τῆς χρὶ εὐσιν
αὐταρκείας.
De Repub. lib. 1
cap. 9.

And this, *Seneca* thought to be a principall benefit of nature, *Quod & vento gentis locis dissipatas miscuit, & sua omnia in regiones ita descripsit, ut necessarium mortali- bus esset inter ipsos Commerciū.* Nature by the benefit of the wind, hath so mixed people, dispersed in diuers places, and so distributed her gifts in diuers Countries, that there should be a necessity of Commerce amongst men. Which agreeth with that of *Aristotle*, *Est translatio rerum omnium capta ab initio, ab eo quod est secundum naturam, cum homines haberent plura quam sufficerent, partim etiam pauciora negotiatione suppleri id quod natura deest, quo commode omnibus sufficiat.*

And that we doe not goe out of the *Christian world* for an example hereof, let vs consider the state of the *Netherlands*, in what a miserable case those people were, if they receiued not supply from all other

other *Nations*. They haue *Nothing* of their owne, and yet they seeme to possesse *All things*, in the *Supply* they receiue from *All the world*.

And surely if any *Kingdome* vnder the Suune can subsist of it selfe, none hath more cause to *Blesse God*, then this *Iland* of ours, which *Almighty God* hath richly adorned with varietie of all things necessary for mans life & welfare. As with *Corne*, and our **wine*: *Cattle*, *wooll*, *Cloth*, *Tynne*, *Iron*, *Lead*, *Saffran*, *Waxe*, *Hoppes*, *Hydes*, *Tallow*, *Flaxe*, *Fowle*, *Fish*, and many others: whereby, thanks be to *God*, the people of this Land, haue not onely *Sufficient* for their owne maintenance, but do abundantly *Supply* the wants of all other *Nations*.

Now the *Trade* and *Commerce* of this *Kingdome* within it selfe, and with *Forreine Nations*, consisting of so many rich *Commodities*; let vs consider them all *Ioyntly*, and then

*I meane
Beere which in
forreine parts
is of more e-
steeme then
wine. And to
vs also in the
use, if there
were not abuse
is farre to be
preferred.

The decay of
the Merchan-
dize of this
Kingdom, con-
sidered Ioynt-
ly or apart.

Ioynly considered, the causes of the decay of Trade, are the want of Mony, and the East-India stocke.

then some Principall of them *Apart.*

Ioynly considered, the *Causes* of the decay of *Trade* in them, may be sayd either to be *Deficient*, or *Efficient*. *Deficient*, either in the *Generall* want of money in the Kingdom; or the *Particular* want of the *East-India* stocke. I shewed before, what were the causes of the want of mony; and that the disaster vpon the *East-India Trade* is a *Remote Cause* thereof: but these are *Both Causes* of the *Decay of Trade*. For *Money* is the *vitall spirit* of *trade*, and if the *Spirits* faile, needes must the *Body* faint. And as the *Body* of *Trade* seemeth to be *Dead* without the *Life* of *Mony*: so do also the *Members* of the *Commonwealth*, without their *Meanes* of *Trade*. We say, that an *Artizan* or *Workeman*, cannot *Worke* without *Tooles* or *Instruments*: no more can a *Merchant Trade* without *Money* or *meanes*.
And

And in the *want* of so great a *Stock*, as is that of the *East-India Company*: the *Body* of this *Commonwealth* hath lost the use of many of its *Principall Members*; by whose industry, art, and action the *Commerce* thereof might wonderfully have beene encreased. The losse whereof, to him that is not wilfully blinde, is apparently sensible in the *Drapery* of the *Kingdome*, whereby the *Poore* are set on worke: and in all the other *Trades* of the *Kingdome*, whereby the *Subiects* are employed: and hath begot that great and generall *Dampe* and *Deadnesse* in all the *Trades* of the *Kingdome*, which wee unhappily feele at this day.

The *Efficient causes* of the *Decay of Trade* jointly considered, are either *Vsury*, or *Vnnecessary Suits in Law*. In the *Former* I am prevented, and my labour spared, by him that wrote a little treatise against *Vsury*: which

Or *Vsury*.

Entituled a
Tract against
viury, presented
to the high
Court of Par-
liament.

which it seeme's for *Modesty* he refuseth to owe : Though I could wish, that those that deserue of the *Publique* were knowne to the *Publique* : least they be serued as sometimes *Batillus* serued *Virgil*, and so be forc't too late to proclaime, *Hos ego versiculos feci, tulit alter Honores.*

I haue a word onely to adde to his *Vsury*, that it is not an *Vsury* of *Ten* in the hundred only, that wringeth this *Common-wealth*, but an *Extortion* also of 20. 30. 40. nay of *Cento per Cento per Anno*, as the *Italians* speake, giuen and taken on **Pleages* and *Pawnes*, and that on *Poore* peoples labours, in *London* especially : which is a biting *Vsury* indeede, and a fearefull crying sinne before *God*.

Vnnecessary Suites of Law are also *Efficient Causes* of the decay of Trade. Wherein certainly this *Kingdome* exceedeth all other *Kingdome*

*A grieuous abuse in certain Brokers about this City, who vpon the pawnes of the Poore, take this excessiue extortion. Of Litigious Law-suits.

Kingdomes in the world. As the *Iustice* of this *Kingdome* is the *Diadem* of the KING, & doth *Stabilire Regis thronum*, and *Tribuere cuique suum*: whereby *Men* may giue *Cesar* *Cæsars*, and *Meum* and *Tuum* one to another: so is the *Iustice* of the KING, in the *Sacred Person* of HIS *Maieſty*, amongst other HIS *Royall Vertues*, an *Embleme* and *Representation* of *Highest Maieſty*; and it is an incomparable happineſſe of this *Kingdome*, to haue ſuch a *Malchizedec*, a KING of *Iuſtice*, a KING of *Peace*.

Neither may I forget that *Royall Teſtimony* hereof, which is worthy to be written in *Letters of Gold*, and thankfully to bee remembered of euery *Tongue* and *Pen*; whereof amongst others more worthy, it was alſo my happineſſe to be *Oculatus* and *Auritus Teſtis*: when HIS *Maieſty* in a *Star-chamber* aſſembly, liſting HIS *Eye* toward Heauen, & laying

מלכי-
צדק
מלך-
שלום

The Commemoration of a royal proteſtation in the *Star-chamber* of His *Maieſties* ſincerity in *Iuſtice*.

laying His Hand on His Sonnes Head, made such a solempne Protestation of His Sincerity in Iustice, as may serue for a matter of Admiration and Imitation, to all the Kings on earth. Those that went Before, and they that Followed after: Those that Heard it then, and they that Heard of it since; sayd it was *φωνὴ Θεοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἀνθρώπου* *Nec vox hominem sonat, ô Deus certè!*

If such then be the Iustice of the King and the Kingdome, how is it then that Trade is hindered by suits of Law? Herein Columellæ's counsell is remarqueable, *Principi providendum est, ne legibus fundata ciuitas, legibus euertatur.* There cannot be too much Iustice, there may be too much Law. For the vse of Iustice is excellent, in containning men within the bonds of Civility and Honesty: in preserving men from Iniury: and in maintayning euery mans Right and Propriety.

But

De Re Rustica.

*Honestè viuere;
Alterum non
ledere; Summ
cuique tribuere.
Iuris præcept.*

But the abuse there-of is a most pernicious and dangerous surfeit in the *Bodie* of euery *Common-wealth*.

And this is our case in this *weale-publike*: no *Kingaome* hath better *Lawes*; no *Kingdome* so full fraught with tedious, needlesse, endlesse, *Suites of Law*. For now this *Litigandi mania* is become *manichius*, and waxeth so fast, and groweth so great, that *Suites of Law* doe seeme immortall: time doth encrease them, and length of time would not determine them, if the wisdome of those *Grave Fathers* of the *Law* did not put an end to the malice of the *Litigants*: as is now worthily obserued in Chancerie, to his honour and memorie that hath so happily begun the same.

By the growth and greatnesse of which *suites*, I say, a great number of His Maiesties good and lo-

D uing

uing subiects are vexed, imprisoned impouerished and ouerthrowne: and whilst the *Litigants* strue together, another taketh away the *Fish*, and as it is in the *Apologue*, leaueth to either of them an empty *Shell*. And thus mens time and meanes being spent in *Law*, which should be employed in *Trade*, trade is neglected, and the *Commonwealth* deprived, of the benefit that might be purchased and procured thereby.

The Decay
of trade con-
sidered apart,
in the Ordina-
nce and
Munition.

And thus much for the *decay of Trade* considered *Ioyntly*. It followeth now to consider them *Apart*, in some principall parts thereof. Which may be reduced, to such as tend to the *Fortification of the Kingdome*, or *Maintenance of Trade*. The *former* are *Ordinance* and *Munition*: the too-too common exportation whereof, hath taught vs wofull experience of an inualluable inconuenience thereby
which

which euery man is sensible of:
and therefore I neede not presse it:
I wish it did not Oppresse vs.

The *Latter*, I will referre to
things essentiall, for the preseruati-
on of mans life, as *Victus* and *Vesti-*
tus: yet such of them also as doe
aford wondrous variety of Trade,
and may be termed the *Nourceries*
thereof, as the *Fishing* and *Clo-*
thing of this *Kingdome*. For on
these two, all sorts of *Trades* and
Tradesmen, haue some depen-
dance.

The inconuenience in the *For-*
mer, is that *Encroaching* of *Stran-*
gers, in *Fishing* vpon our *Coasts*:
whereby not onely the *Bread* is ta-
ken out of the subiects *Mouth*, but
that infinite *Wealth*, which *God*
hath made *Proper* and *Peculiar* vn-
to *Us*, is become *Common* vnto
them. Whereby also, their *Navi-*
gation is wonderfully encreast,
their *Marriners* are multiplied, and

Or in the
Fishing.

exceeding great *Trades* maintained into all parts of the Christian World. And Victuals commonly yeelding ready money, and tolleration of exportation thereof, the same hath redounded to an infinite enriching of their Countries with *Treasure*, exhausted out of these *Mines* of our's.

I am not ignorant that a learned man of that side, pressing hard in a Treatise entituled *Mare liberum*, the Communitie and freedome of the *Sea* against the *Portugall* Trade into the *East Indies*; doth cunningly and obliquely, vnder the couert termes of *Populi Romani lictus*, defend and maintaine, in the fift Chapter thereof, their *Fishing* vpon our *Coasts*. For thus hee concludeth, *Nemo igitur potest à populo Romano ad lictus maris accedere prohiberi, & retia siccare, & alia facere, qua semel omnes homines in perpetuum sibi licere voluerunt.* And againe,

Mare liberum.
ap. 5 p. 22.

again, *Exteris ius piscandi, ubique immune esse debet.*

*Eodem cap.
p. 28.*

To part of which Treatise, there is an answer entituled, *De Domino Maris*, to which I referre those that desire further satisfaction in this matter. But in my iudgement, which I submit to better iudgement, the Author of *Mare liberum*, though otherwise very learned, strayneth his Arguments for that purpose beyond their strength. For *Ius* is said to be *scriptum*, or *Non scriptum*. And *Non scriptum* is *Consuetudo*. And *Consuetudo non minus est species iuris, quam ius scriptum*. And by both these, the *Proprieties* of the Seas may be proved, to belong to those *Princes* and *Countries*, to which they are next *Adiacent*.

*De Arte iuris
cap. 13.*

For *Custom*, the examples of our Neighbor Countries round about vs are frequent. As of *Coeldine*, *Groenland*, *Norway*, and *Friseland*,

vnder the King of Denmarke. Tunny fishing vnder the the Duke of Medina. The Gulfe of Venice vnder that Seignory. And many others I might instance: In all which there is no liberty of fishing, but by Speciall priuiledge had from those Princes to whō thesame belongeth. Which being so, we may well conclude with the Poet, *Cum ventum ad verum est, sensus moresque repugnant.*

Hor.

Mare liberum

p. 25.

Nouella Leo. 56.

For the Law it selfe, it is not hard to produce some of his owne Authors against himselfe. As the Emperour Leo: of whom hee thus speakeeth, *Voluit tributa, hoc est, vestibula maritima eorum esse propria, qui oram habitarent; ibique eos ius piscandi habere.*

Also Rodericus Suarius, whose testimony because he was a Spaniard, he produceth against the Portugals in the end of his fift Chapter: whom, if hee had pleased, he

hec might also haue thus cited:
*Redditus piscariarum consueti, ut est
 gabella, seu aliud tributum solui
 consuetum, de his quæ in mari piscato-
 res faciunt, seu a mercatoribus de
 his quæ emunt aut vendunt, Princi-
 pibus conceduntur.*

Rodric. Sna-
 rius de usu
 Maris. consil. I.

To which I will onely adde that
 of Bartolus, whom the *Civilians*
 call *Iuris Lucernam*, thus speaking:
*Vt Insula in mari proximè adiacen-
 tes, sic & mare ipsum ad Centum vs-
 que milliaria pro territorio districtu-
 que illius regionis cui proximè appro-
 pinquat, assignatur.*

L. Insula ff. de
 iur. et
 L. Casar. ff. de
 public.

The rest that the Author of *Ma-
 re liberum* enforceth, of the Com-
 munity and Freedome of the Sea
 to all *Nations*, he vnderstandeth of
 matters in question, betweene the
Portugals and those of his Nation,
 concerning their *East India Trade*,
 and not of their *Fishing* vpon our
Coasts. Which *Question* in my
 iudgement, being out of question

were better determined by *Action* then *Disputation*: It being a *Royalty* of the King, and a *Regall Priuiledge* of this *Kingdome*, assigned by *Almighty God*.

Or in the
Clothing.

From the *Fishing* come wee to the *Clothing* or *Drapery* of this *Kingdome*: the consideration whereof is of very high consequence, and concerneth both the *Soueraigne* and the *Subiect*, *Noble* and *Ignoble*; euen al sorts, and callings and conditions of men in this *Commonwealth*. For this is sayd to beea *Flower* of the Kings *Crowne*, the *Dowry* of the *Kingdome*, the chiefe *Reuenue* of the King. This is a *Bound* to fortifie, and a *Bond* to knit the subiects together in their seuerall societies. This is the *Gold* of our *Ophir*, the *Milke* & *Hony* of our *Canaan*, the *Indies* of *England*: and therefore *Desire's* & *Deserues* to be had in an euerlasting remembrance.

The *Draperies* of this *Kingdome* are

are termed *Old* and *New*. By the *Old*; are vnderstood *Broad Cloathes*, *Bayes* and *Kersies*: By the *New*; *Perpetuanoes*, *Serges*, *Sayes*, and other *Manufactures* of wooll.

The *Causes* then of the *Decay* of *Trade* in these *Draperies*, are either *Domestique* or *Forreine*. The *Domestique causes*, are some *Past*, some *Present*. Those *Past*, are apparent in the late disturbance of the *Cloth-trade*; which is so obuious to euery man, that I had rather *Passé by it*, then *Pressé upon it*, because it is *Past*: and I would to God that so were the effects of it also. In charitie wee may thinke it was *Good* in the *Purpose*, though it proued *Ill* in the *Practise*. For thereby the *Draperies* of this *Kingdome* are much diminished, and the *forreine* aduanced and aduantaged. The quantities of which last, were formerly few or none, but now they exceede our highest numbers issued

ed out of the land : as by a collection thereof, which my selfe made in those part, by H I S *Maiestie*, speciall cōmand, in the time of *Secretary Winwoods* seruice, may appeare.

These Present, may be discern'd in the *Cloth-trade*, either vnder, the *Clothier*, or vnder the *Merchant*. Vnder the *Clothier*, either by *ill making*, or *False sealing* the Cloth.

The decay of
Clothing
vnder the
Clothier, or
vnder the
Merchant,

4. *lawb.*

Vnder the
Clothier, by
ill making, or
false sealing
of Cloth.

For the making of good and true Cloth, many excellent lawes have bin inuented & enacted by the wisdom of the *Parliaments* of this land, from time to time. And the Statute of 4. of the *King Cap. 2.* doth seeme to bee an *Epitome* or *Compendiary* of all the former Statutes in this kinde. In this Statute is prescribed, the true breadth, and length, and waight, that may conduce to the making of a true and perfect Cloth, Kersie or Manufacture. If a Clothier make a Cloth of lesse waight, then is set downe
in

in the said Statute, he offendeth in *Quantitie*: If of lesse breadth, or length, or of forbidden kindes of wooll, hee offendeth in *Qualitie*. If a Clothier offend in *Neither* of these by his *Ownne Act*, yet he may offend in *Both*, by his *Instruments* or *Workmen*: Either by the *Weavers*, in *not putting in* the stuffe *at the making*; or by the *Tuckers* in *pulling out* the stuffe *after the making* thereof.

A Cloth also may be well made; & yet false sealed. A Cloth may be said to be lawfully made, when it is truly sealed. For althogh it may be impossible to make some Clothes, iust of those quantities and qualities prescribed by the Statute; as the *Clothiers* terme is, *A man cannot cast a cloth in a mould*: yet I hope, they will giue me leaue to say, that it is possible that a Cloth may bee true sealed, though false made. And then a *Cloth is made*, and *true sealed*,

sealed, whereby the buyer may see what hee hath for his money, may bee said to bee a good or lawfull Cloth according to the Statute.

Now the execution of the Statute for *Searching* and *Sealing* of *Clothes*, seemeth to be referred to two sorts of men : which are either the *Aulnager* or *Searcher*. The *former* may seeme originally to haue beene an Officer appointed for that purpose, as well by the *Notation* of the name, as by some *Ancient Statutes*. For *Aulne*, and *Aulnage*, and *Aulnagier*, are all *French* words, taken from the measuring of Cloth. And thence it is, that in that tong they are wont to say *Aulner draps* to measure Clothes, by a *Trope* taken from the *Instrument* by which they are *Measured*.

But because the care of the *Aulnage* is committed to so *Noble* and *Honourable a Personage*, that will

not

11, Edw. 4, 6.
8c.

not suffer any abuse in the execution of that office : and the said Statute of 4. *Iacobi*, and the former Statutes of 39. and 43. *Elizabetha* doe referre the *Searching* and *sealing* of Clothes, to certaine *Ouerseers* or *Searchers*, so called by the said *Stautes*, I will proceede vnto them.

And forasmuch as *Execution* is the *Life* of the *Law*, as *H I S Maie-*
stie in high *High wisdoma* admoni-
 sheth; and the *Prudence* and *Provi-*
dence of the *State*, haue beene very
 great in deuising and enacting such
 good lawes from time to time, as
 might tend to the encrease and ad-
 uancement of the *Drapery* of this
Kingdome : If therefore now any
 thing bee amisse therein, it must
 needs come through the want of
Execution of thole *Lawes*. *Hinc ille*
lachryma ! This *Bonum* according
 to *H I S Maiesties Regall rule*, is not
Benè. For these *Ouerseers* and
Searchers

In His Maie-
 sties speech
 in Parliament.
 In June 1611.

*Eadem Oratio-
 ne Regia.*

Searchers being silly Countrey-men, and generally not expert in the *mystery* of making of Cloth: in the *Search* whereof, there is as much neede of skill as in the making: for how should they finde the fault, that know not how it is committed? These *Searchers* I say, thus being ignorant and vn-skilfull in their offices, and negligent also, (in which last, it hath beene againe and againe confest, that they haue set the scales of their office, to Clothes they neuer search't nor saw) needs must there be a great abuse, in the *Execution* of those good *Lawes*.

Nay I would I could not say, how much our Nation hath beene vpbayded by the people of for-reine parts with this abuse, that the *Searchers Scales* of *England* are *bought* and *sold* as in a market, and put on the Clothes by the *Tuckers*, and other the seruants of the
Clo-

Clothiers, as if the same had beene lawtully *Searched* and *Sealed* according to the *Statute*; when as the *Searchers Eye* neuer so much as beheld the *Clothes*.

Wherein the people of the *Netherlands* are so exact, that you shall neuer find any of their Country *Clothes* false *Search't* or *Seal'd*. For you shall haue a *Seale* set vpon the *Cloth* when it commeth from the *Weauers*: another when it cometh frō the *Tuckers*: another when it cōmeth from the *Dyers*: and that by men of good quality, appointed for that purpose in euery *City* and *Towne* where *Cloth* is made, termed *Curemasters*: so called from the *Care* they ought, and doe performe, in the execution of their office: wherein indeed they are so exact, that you shall neuer finde any of the *Seales* aforesaid, set to any manner of *false* or *Defectiue* *Cloth*.

For indeed the *Searcher* being a
Sworne

Sworne Officer, ought to be as a witness without exceptiō betwixt man and man : that when a man seeth the *Searchers seale* set vpon the Cloth, it should serue as a true *Certificat* of the true making thereof. It is a great impiety before God and *Man*, to be a false witness in any case : but these *Searchers* are false witnesses *ipse facto*, when they doe *Testifie* to the world by their *Seales*, that those Clothes are *Good* and *True*, which indeede are vtterly *False*. And which aggravateth the matter yet more, that *the Kings Scale of Armes*, wich is *testis omni exceptione maior*, should also bee set to Clothes thus *Falsely searched & sealed*; whereby not onely *the Kings Subjects*, but the *Strangers* also in *Forreine parts* are deceiued, is a very grosse and grievous abuse.

An example
of Clothes ill
made, searched
and sealed.

Amongst other abuses of this kinde, one precedent comes to my minde, of *Ten* Clothes bought not long

long since by a *Merchant*, of a *Clothier* of *Wiltshire*. Which *Cloathes* were all *Sealed* by the *Searchers* of that place, for good & true, according to the Statute. But being tried by the *Merchant-Buyer*, and afterward by the *Sworne measurer* of the *Citie of London*, were found so defective in length, breadth and waight, that where these *Ten* *Clothes* cost but 50. *lib.* or thereabouts, the faults in these *Ten* *Clothes* came to neere 20. *lib.* which was one third part of the value of the Cloth. And it being a notable contempt of the law, the *Lords* of *HIS MAiesties most Honourable Priuie Councell* were informed thereof; who were pleased to send downe a *Messenger* into that *County*, and fetch't vp both the *Clothier* and *Searchers*, who worthily vnder-went the *Condigne* *Censure* of the *Lords*.

Vnder the *Merchant* also the
E Cloth

The Cloth
trade suffereth
vnder the
Merchant,
At home and
abroad.
At Home by
Exportation
of the Materi-
als, or Imposi-
tion of Charge.

Cloth-trade suffereth both at *Home* and *Abroad*. *At Home*, by *Exporting the Materials*, either of *Woolles* or *Wooll-fels* from the *Sea coasts* of *England*, and the *Kingdome* of *Ireland*: or by *Ouer-lading the Cloth-trade*, either with any *generall* or *speciall* charge.

The *latter* I cannot pretermitt: for as the chiefe waight of the *Cloth-trade* lyeth on the *Merchants-Aduenturers*; so also is the burthen of charge most felt vnder that *Trade*. For the *Impositions* and *Imprest money* by them layd vpon the *Cloth*, for defraying the charge of their *Gouernment*, and payment of their *Debts*; haue driuen many good *Merchants* out of the *Trade*, and giuen the *Clothiers* occasion to complaine of want of *Buyers*, and thrust the *Trade* it selfe more and more into the *Strangers* hands.

Abroad by
vnfit Resi-
dence.

And *abroad*, by the vnfit place of *Residence*, which the *Merchants-Aduenturers* are fallen vpon in

Holland. Whither they goe with great perill of Shippe and Goods: And where they come farre short of that they hoped for; and of that quicke and ample vent of their Cloth they found in *Zeeland*. The *Agitation* of which remooue; is vehemently suspected to haue moued the *Merchants* of *Holland*, to procure *Priviledges* of the *States Generall* to *Incorporate* themselves, and keepe *Courts*, to confront the *Merchant Adventurers*; which they neuer did before: To haue drawne the * *Taring* of Cloth into *Holland*, where the *Buyers* are in some sort *Iudges & Parties*; which before was in the *Mart-towne*, where the *Seller* was present: And lastly, to haue hastned the great *Imposition* in *Holland*. All which are matters of moment, and concerne the *Cloth-trade* verie much; and whereof the *English Factors* there residing doe generally complaine:

* That is, abating for the faults thereof

Forreine causes of the decay of the Drapery, are the warrs and the great Imposition in Holland.

Yet *These* I rather instance then vrge : leauing the further Overture thereof to their own relation.

Now the *Forreine Causes* of the decay of the *Drapery* of *England* : are either *Generall*, as the warrs in *Germany* : or *Speciall*, as the *Great Imposition* lately laide vpon our Cloth in *Holland*.

By the *Former*, the Course of Trade is stopt and hindered, that Merchants cannot passe without perill from place to place : and the monies become so variable, that when a Merchant hath sold his Cloth, and hopeth to haue gained something thereby ; by that time that the terme for payment is expired, hee receiueth lesse in value then the Clothes cost, by the *Raising* and *Rising* of the monies.

By the *latter*, the *Merchants* of the *Netherlands* are discouraged, whereby many of them haue giuen ouer their Trades, which heretofore they followed in ample man-

ner, in our *English* Clothes bought of the *Merchants-Adventurers* from time to time : which hath also tended to the advancement of the *Dutch Draperies* ; because the same are freed of all manner of charge.

CAP. III.

Of governed Trade, and therein of Monopoly.

Hitherto the *Matter of Trade* hath beene considered in *Money* and *Merchandise* : the *Forme* followeth, and that either in respect of *Government*, or *Want of Government* in trade. *Gouernment* is a representation of the *Maiestie* and *Authoritie* of the *KING*. The subject that is honoured with *Gouernment*, is inuested with part of the *KINGS Honour*. The *Trades* of this *Kingdome* which by *HIS Maiesties* especiall *Grace* and *Fauour* are reduced vnder *Order* and *Gouernment* into *Corporations*, *Companies*, and *Societies* , doe certainly much

Aduance and Advantage the Commerce of this Common-wealth, and farre excell the trades of any other forreine Merchants in their vngouerned trades.

But as the *Vse of Government* is excellent for the restraint of vnskillfull and disorderly trade: so the *Abuse* therof is as inconuenient, if at any time the same be too strict, and come within the compasse of a *Monopoly*. And because the name and nature of *Monopoly*, is more talk't of, then well *understood* of many; and some thinke that the reducing of trade into *Order* and *Government*, is a kinde of *Monopolizing* and restraint of trade: I haue thought it not vnseasonable to bestow some speciall paines in the diligent inuestigation thereof. Not that I would haue the trade of the *Kingdome* so circumscribed or appropriated to any, that others of *HIS MAiesties* Subjects should be
deprived

deprived of the libertie thereof; but that vpon equall & reasonable termes, trading vnder *Order* and *Gouernment*, without that ill tincture of *Monopoly*, the *KINGS* *high way of trade* should be opened vn- to all.

The name therefore of *Monopoly* in our English tongue, is deriued, as the learned know, of the Greeke word *Μονοπόλιον*: whence also the latine word *Monopolium* is borrow- ed. Some deriue it of *Μόνος Solus*, and *πωλέω Vendo*, to sell alone. Others of *Μόνος Solus*, & *πωλείωμαι Ver- sor*, to cōuerse alone. Other of *Μόνος Solus*, and *πόλις Ciuitas*, *quasi vnica negotiatio in Ciuitate*. But all these agree in one meaning of the word, that it is *Singularis Negotiatio*, a di- uerting of *Commerce* from the nat- urall course and vse thereof, into the hands of some few, to their be- nefit, and others preiudice. I also find many *definitions* of *Monopolies*:

Huiusmodi
contractus tan-
ta emptiois &
condu. liquis
similitudine
confundebatur,
ut vix ac ne
vix quidem
iuris consultis
internosciposs-
et.
Hottom. ad tit.
in lib. 1. § 19.
De Rep. lib. 1.
cap. 11.

and a great question among the *Ciuitians*, whether a *Monopoly* may bee exercised of one alone; and whether it consist aswell in *Locatio Conductio*, as they speak, as in *Emptio Venditio*. Which last is out of question with all. And of the former, I finde an instance in *Aristotle* of *Thales Milesius* his *Monopolie*: who by his knowledge in *Astrologie*, fore-seeing one yeare in the winter, that there would bee great plentie of *Oyles* the next yeare, hired before-hand all the places and engins for making of *Oyle* through both the Ilands of *Melazo* & *Chius*, and afterwards let out the same againe at his owne pleasure & price. In the same place hee maketh also mention of another, who bought vp all the Iron in *Sicilia*, which afterwards he sold againe, and made one hundred *Talents* of that which cost him but fiftie. Amongst others I will take the definition of *Althusius*

Althusius for all the rest. *Monopolium*, saith he, *Est commercium emendi, vendendi, permutandine, à paucis vel uno etiam usurpatum, reliquis ciuibus præceptum, quo pretia augentur cum lucro negotiantis, & reliquorum damno.* That is, *Monopoly* is a kind of *Commerce*, in buying, selling, changing or bartering, usurped by a few, and sometimes but by one person, and fore-stalled from all others, to the Gain of the *Monopolist*, and to the Detriment of other men.

The parts then of a *Monopolie* are twaine. The restraint of the liberty of *Commerce* to some one or few: and the setting of the price at the pleasure of the *Monopolian* to his priuate benefit, and the prejudice of the publique. Vpon which two *Hinges* euery *Monopoly* turneth. And these two parts are respectiuelly repugnant to the two fundamentall requisites of a good Lawes

*Politie. cap. 31.
n. 10.*

T

Lawes : to wit, *Equitie* and *Vtility*. For it is against *Equitie*, that one Member of a *Common-wealth* should bee more free then another of equall ranke and condition. And what can be more contrary to *Publique Vtility*, then that some one or few persons, should sway the price of any thing vifull to the *Common-wealth*, to their owne *Enriching*, and the *Common Losse* of other men? And heere it is to bee well obserued, that vnlesse these two parts concur in a *Monopoly*: it cannot truely and properly bee so called, nor ought it so to bee accounted. And therefore *Althusius* following *Decianus*, saith well of that restraint of the *Comon Liberty*, which we call *Suit of Mill*: which compelleth men to vse this or that *Mill to grinde corne*, and none other: that it doth onely *Sapere Monopolium*, Sauour of Monopoly: but that it is not truly and properly

Althusius polit.

cap. 32.

Lib. Decianus

tract. crim.

cap. 21.

Menoch. lib. 2.

p. 369.

ly a *Monopoly*. For in that case of *Suit of Mill*, vnlesse there be a greater Tolle or recompence exacted for grinding, then at other Milles, it falleth onely within the first part of a Monopoly, to wit, of the *Restraint of the Publike Liberty*; but not within compasse of the other part, the *Setting of the Price*. But for this *Restraint of the Publike Liberty of Commerce*, it may bee so ordered by the *Wisdom of the State*, that it may bee both *Lawfull* and *Beneficiall* to the *Common-wealth*. Which assertion, because it may seeme strange to some, I will make euident by *Good Authoritie* and *Examples*. *Peter Martyr* that famous light of the Churches of the Gospell, defendeth the restraint of *Solomon*, that none should buy *Horses of Egypt* without his Licence, to bee Lawfull. And of this kinde is the *Preemption of Tinne* heere in *England*, granted by His *Maiesties*
Gracious

P. Martin I.
Reg. 6. 10. &c.

Gracious Letters Patents to some few, with restraint of all others: which I dare boldly affirme is not only *lawful*, but very *beneficiall* also to this *Common-wealth*. For thereby our *Thrice Noble Prince* receiveth a good reuenue, and the *Tinne* of this Land is sold for many thousand pounds a yeare more in *Forrein parts*, then otherwise it would, to the great increase of the *Common stocke* of this *Kingdome*. Also the Law of this *Realme* alloweth, that if any man inuent a new Art, beneficiall to the *Common-wealth*, hee may haue a Patent to vse that Art solely, with restraint of all others for seuen yeares: as well in recompence of his industry, as for the incouragement of others, to studie and inuent things profitable for the publique *Symbiosis*. The *Statutes* of the *Kingdome* restraints from the exercise of sundry *Crafts*, all such as haue not serued an apprenticeshood

prentisshood vnto that *Art* which they would exercise: to the end that those *Artes* might be brought to better perfection, and the things made, might be good and seruiceable for those that buy and vse them.

The restraint of the *Publique Libertie*, is sometimes exercised by *Priuate Authoritie*: sometimes by *Publique*. Which distinction is made by the *Emperour Zeno*. *Inbemus ne quis pro sua authoritate, vel sacro elicto rescripto, &c. Monopolium audeat exercere.*

Cod. lib. 4. Tit. 59.

The *former* is practised, when any one or more, haue by their owne priuate contracts, gotten any *Commoditie* or matter of *Commerce*, wholly into their owne hands. Of this kinde are the examples aboue cited out of *Aristotle*.

The *latter* is, when by *Publike* authority, the liberty of the subiect
is

is restrained : which is done, sometimes by the *Prerogative of the KING* : sometimes by *Act of Parliament*.

The *Former*, by dispensing with a generall Law in some point, and applying the dispensation to some one or few, with restraint of others. The *Latter*, by prohibiting all, but some one or few persons to vse the benefit of the Law in some point or other.

For dispensing with the Lawes, it is without question, that the *KING* hath power to dispence with a *Penal Law*, when it prohibiteth that which is not *Malum in se*. For the *Parliament* hauing made a *Statute* with intent of the *Publique good* : yet the same by reason of something not foreseene at the making of the Law, may proue verie preiudiciall in the Execution. And then the *Malum prohibitum*, as the *Lawyers* speake, may be dispenced

penced with by *the KING*. Thus the *Parliament* hauing prohibited the exportation of white Clothes vndrest about the price of foure pound the Cloth: the obseruation of that Statute was found by experience to be very preiudiciall to the Trade, and free vent of the Cloth in forreine parts. Whereupon *Q. Elizabeth*, granted a Speciall Licence to the Fellowship of the *Merchant Aduenturers*, to transport all sorts of white Clothes vndrest, with a *Non obstante* to that Statute. And although all other men stood lyable to the Statute still, and were restrained, yet the *Vtilitie* that hereby arose to the *Common-wealth*, did farre exceede the restraint of the *Publike Libertie*. For within few yeares after the granting of this Licence, the vent of Cloth in forreine parts increased to twice as much, as formerly it was during the strict obseruation
of

33. H. 8.

Anno 6. Eliz.

of the Statute. Other like dispensations of Statutes, I might instance : as that of the 28. H. 8. concerning the retailing of *Gasgoigne Wines* at two pence a quart : which is dispensed with, by a Licence to the *Company of the Vintners* : but these may suffice for euery mans ynderstanding of this kinde of restraint.

For *Prohibition by Act of Parliament* : such is the Act whereby all the subiects of this Realme, excepting such as are of the Corporation of the *Muscovy Company*, are forbidden to trade into any part of *Russia*. Also that of 3. *Jacob.* concerning *Artizan Skinners*, whereby all but the *Company* are forbidden to buy and retaile some sorts of *Skinnes*. In these and the like, the *Parliament* maketh restraint of the *Common liberty of Commerce*, and the same restraint is againe released, not vnto all, but to some persons

3. *Jacob.*

sons or Corporations by *Speciall Exercise and Prouiso* of the Act of Parliament.

The Later kinde of Restraint by Publique Authority, is when that which seemeth by the Lawe to be free to all, is by some *Patent or Proclamation of the Prince*, prohibited to all, sauing some certaine *Corporations*, or persons specially excepted and authorized in the same *Patent or Proclamation*. Of this kind are generally reputed all *Corporations of Merchants*, which are not confirmed by *Act of Parliament*. Which are generally reputed to carry with them a restraint to others, of that *Liberty*, which the Law doth seeme to offer to all in point of *Commerce*. Whence it is that so many pleade the *Freedome* of subiects, and *Presse* or rather *Oppresse* that plea of equity, that it is equall that all subiects should bee alike free to bee Merchants in all

F

Trades.

Trades. To whom I answer, that first there is no good *Equality* in it, because it is against the *Publique Utility*, that all should bee Merchants at their pleasure. For that's not equall, that may seeme profitable to one, and bee hurtfull to many. *Atque ipsa utilitas inhi prope mater & equi*, as *Horace* speaketh. And yet what point of *Equity* is broken, when the freedome of Societies is so carryed, that it is open to all men vpon equall termes; that is to say, either by seruice or purchase? Otherwise it were very vnequall, that one man should serue for his freedome, or buy the same: and another man should haue it for nothing. If this point were well thought vpon, I presume the *Gracious Grants* and *priuiledges* of *H i s Maiestie*, conferred vpon *Societies*, would not seeme so much a *Restraint* of the *Common liberty*, as a prudent ordering

ring and accommodating thereof vnto the *Publique Vtility*. For it hath euer beene a *Policy* of this State, to reduce the Trades of Merchants of this *Kingdome* into *Corporations* and *Societies*, for the advancement of Trade, by the benefit of order and gouernment: well foreseeing that there cannot bee any greater *Bane* to a *Well-gouerned Common-wealth*, then *Ill-gouerned and Disorderly Trade*. Whereof I shall haue fitter occasion to speake in the next Chapter, when I come to treat of the Inconueniences of the want of gouernment in Trade. So that in this case the general rule must be this; that such a *Restraint* of the *Publique Liberty*, as is before mentioned, is alwayes to be allowed, when the same is recompenced with a *Publique Vtility*. According to that of Tacitus, *Omne magnum exemplum habet in se aliquid iniqui, quod utilitate publica contra singu-*

Tacitus.

los compensatur. Also the liberty that the Law seemeth to giue the subiects in Trade, is to bee vnderstood, of imploiment *Within the Kingdome*, not *Without the Kingdome*. For what liberty can a *Nationall Law*, giue to a *Forrein Trade* vnder a *Forreine Iurisdiction*, when the liberty or restraint thereof dependeth vpon those *Forreine Princes and States* where that Trade is tollerated? Therefore the *Law* may giue the subiect Liberty *Within the Land*, but it is the KING that must enable men to trade *Without the Land*. For all the *Trades* of the *Merchants* of this *Kingdome* into *Forrein countries*, are grounded vpon the *Amity* of the KING, and the *Treaties of Peace* contracted by the KING, with the *Kings and Rulers* of those *forreine parts*, at his owne charge, and by *HIS* own Authority, without the assistance of *HIS Parliament*. And therefore it holdeth

deth good congruity, that the KING by His like Authority, may haue the disposing and ordering of such His contracts at his owne pleasure.

The second part of *Monopoly* remaining, of the *Setting of the Price* at the pleasure of the *Monopolist*, to his *Private* gaine, & the *Publique* losse. This *Gothofredus* calleth the *Forme* of a *Monopoly*. And in truth it is the very *Soule* and *Accomplishment* thereof. And he or they that haue this power ouer the price of the thing they negotiate, may well be said according to the notation of *Monopoly*, from *μῆν* and *πωλῆμα*, to *conuerse alone*. For in so doing, they so liue, as none can liue by them, in respect of their singuler gaine in this kinde: Contrary to that honest Prouerbiall rule of the Dutch, that men must *Leuen ende Laeten Leuen*: So liue as other men may Liue by them. But here I

Cod. 4. 59.

cannot but discharge all those *Corporations* of this *Kingdome*, of this part of *Monopoly*, which afford to euery particuler Trader thereof, the managing of his owne stocke, in buying and selling as hee can, without any combination with others. In which it is as impossible as vnusuall, for any to haue command of the price of their *Commodities*: because there is such a multitude of Traders of the; and euery man is at liberty to buy or sell, without any rule by any generall order, or meanes to hold one price. But the greatest suspicion of *Monopoly* in *Corporations*, is in such as Trade in *Joint stockes*. Whereof if there be any that tradeth in a *Joint stocke*, and hath the *Sole* buying or selling of any *Commodity*, and buy and sell the same *Jointly*, as by one person or common faector, such is guilty of *Monopoly*.

For

For *particuler men*, they may also commit *Monopolizing*: either by procuring *Patents* by misinformation of the *State*, for the *Sole Importing* or *Exporting*, buying or selling at their owne prises, to the restraint of the *Common Libertie*, and the *Publique Vtility* of the *Kingdome*: or else when some one or few, without any *Authoritie*, doe ioine together to engrosse and buy in a *Commodity*, and sell it out againe at their owne price. Of the former kinde, are those *Catalogues* of crying *Monopolies*, which His *Maiestie* in His *High Wisdom* and *Grace* damned in His *Princely Proclamation* of the tenth of *Iuly* last, in the xix. yeare of His *Maiesties* most happy *Reigne* over this *Kingdome*: Many of which were abused in the *Practise*, from that which they appeared to be in the *Institution*. And here a pretty question occurreth. When a

Patent is granted to a certaine person or persons, so as he or they haue power to licence others to exercise some kinde of *Commerce* solely, and consequently with command of the price: the question is, who is then the *Monopolian*, whether the *Patentees*, or their *Assignes*? In this case I suppose, that both the one and the other commit *Monopoly*. For first, the *Patentees* make their price at their pleasure vpon their *Assignes*, and they againe vpon the *subiects*. So that here is *Monopoly* vpon *Monopoly*: like your *Salt* vpon *Salt*, *Interest* vpon *Interest*, or the *Decompositum* in *Grammer*.

In the latter, some sorts of *Trades-men* in *London*, are said to offend. Which being matters of Generall note, and willing to auoid offence, I will passe by such particulars. And this shall suffice for the *Definition* and *Distribution* of *Monopoly*.

CAP.

CAP. III.

Of want of Government in Trade.

SVch is the *Forme of Trade* considered in the *Strict Vse* or *Abuse of Government*, by way of *Monopoly*. It now remaineth briefly to shew the *Too Loose Vse* thereof, by *Vngoverned Trade*.

It is a *Maxime* in the *Mathematicques*, that *Rectum est Index sui & obliqui*. And the want of *Gouernment*, cannot better be demonstrated, then by the benefit of *Gouernment* it selfe. For thereby the *Common-wealth* hath beene much aduantaged, both in the encrease of the natiue *Commodities* of the *Kingdome*, and the aduancement of their vse and price in *Forreine parts*: and also in keeping the *forreine*

reine wares at a moderate rate within this *Kingdome*. This will be yet more perspicuous, if we cast our eye first vpon the seuerall *Societies of Merchants* which trade *under Government*: and then on those which trade *without Government*. For *Contraria iuxta se posita, magis elucescunt*.

The Merchants-Adventurers.

In the first place therefore consider we that *Ancient* and heretofore *Famous fellowship of the Merchants Adventurers of England*. Hath it not by their politique rule and order, eaten out the *Societie* of the *Hans-townes of Germanie* and the *Merchants of the Entercourse of the Low Countries*, in those trades, which a long time they enioyed in this land? And whereas those of the *Hans*, vented in *Germany*, only a matter of *sixe thousand* of our *Clothes* yeerely and at low prizes: and held this *Realme* as it were beholding vnto them for their shipping

ping: yea vpon some discontent for denying of them priuiledges, durst offer some hostilitie in the time of *Edward the fourth*. Whereas the *Merchants-Aduenturers* by their *Charters*, granted from time to time by the *Princes of this Realme*, and fauoured by *Parliaments* successiuelly; by their orderly manning of their trade, haue supplanted the trade of the *Hanses* in *Germany*: and brought the said *Sixe thousand* vented by them in *Germany*, vnto *Thirtie thousand* Clothes yeerely & at great prises. And it is worthy to be remembred to their *Honour*, that seruice which the *Merchants-Aduenturers* did to the *State* in *Anno 88.* when they supplied the *Nanie Royall* with a whole ships lading of *Powder and Shot* from *Hamburgh*: which came luckily euen *in articulo temporis*, when there was a very great want thereof. These also haue from
time

time to time employed and bred vp many worthy Masters of ships and Mariners: and built many Tall, warlike and Seruiceable shippes: which as they themselues also, are at all times ready to doe seruice to the KING & STATE vpon all occasions. None of all which they had euer beene able to haue done as particular men, in a loose, distracted, and disorderly trade.

The East-
India Com-
pany.

Great benefit also hath arisen from the *East-land Company*: who haue wonne like ground of the *Hanses* of the *Baltique Sea*: and do employ in that trade a great number of proper *Shippes* and *Men*.

The Muscovy
Company

The *Muscovy Company* also by the benefit of *Gouernment*, besides their employment of many proper Ships and Men, haue discovered the passage by the *North-Cape*, as also of *Greenland*: and done many other seruices to the *State*: which as particuler men, they could neuer haue performed.

The

The *Leuant Company* likewise by their trade vnder *Gouernment*, hath built a great strength of warlike, Tall & Lusty Shipping, which they employ in that trade : and by their industry haue wonne from the *Italian* the trade of the *Leuant* : the *Commodities* whereof were before brought into this *Realme* by *Argosies* to the encrease of *Forreine Shipping*, and at *Deare* rates: and is now reduced to the *Natiues* of this *Kingdome*, to the encrease of *Shipping*, and the benefit of the *Publike*. Which without *Gouernment* and good order, had been impossible for them to haue done.

The *French Company* also, though but lately reduced to *Order*, haue reformed many abuses in that trade, in maintaining the *Natiue Commodities* of this *Kingdome* in much better estimation, and in keeping the *Forreine* at moderate prices: and in employing greater shipping,

The *Leuant Company*.

The *French Company*.

The East-
India Com-
pany.

shipping, then at any time before. Which were impossible for them to effect *Singly*, without *Societie*.

Lastly, for the *East-India Company*, whereof I am preuented to say what I might, by two seuerall discourses published in print, the one by that worthy & rarely qualified Gentleman *S^r. Dudley Digges* Knight, the other by that discrete Merchant *M. Thomas Mun*: yet this I say, that this *Great and Noble Societie* by the benefite of *Gouernment*, hath set on foot a very *Mightie Trade*, farre beyond any other *Company* of this *Kingdome*: and accordingly hath excelled in *Greatnesse of shipping*, and making *Mariners of land-men*, beyond the example of any other *Corporation*: and had not *Envy* thought that *Trade* too great a *Treasure* for this *Kingdome*; doubtlesse they had in *Encrease of Trade*, excelled all the *Companies of Merchants* in this *Commonwealth*.

But

But here the ordinary obiection encountereth me, that in *Germany*, *Spaine*, *France*, *Italie*, and the *Netherlands*, there are no such *Companies*, nor *Restraint of Merchants*, as here in *England*: and yet that those *Countries* thrive better in their *Trades*, then we in ours. I answer, that if it be granted, that they have no such *Companies* nor *Restraints* of any, and that they thrive better in their trades then we; yet it will not follow, that this their better thriving is because every man is at libertie to be a *Merchant* at his pleasure. This is the *Fallacy* which the *Logicians* call *Tò μὴ δύνῃ οὐδ' αὖτις*, *Non causa pro causa*. For if that were the cause, why then should not our *Spanish Trade*, that hath no *Company* nor *Restraint*, prosper better than the other *Trades* which are Governed in *Companies*? whereas to speak as the truth is, *This Trade & These Merchants*, are the most miserable
of

The obiection answered, that the Merchants of other countries trade without government, which is examined by a particular enumeration of divers Countries.

As first Ger-
many.

of all the other *Trades* and *Tradesmen* of this *Kingdome*, and all through want of *Gouernment*: thorough whose sides the *Commonwealth* suffereth, and hath already lost many Millions in value of the *Wealth* of the *Weale-publique*, as I shall shew anon. But to the *Assumption*. I deny that the *Merchants* of those *Forreine Countries*, trade without *Gouernment*. For *Germany* hath anciently had one *Society*, or *Corporation* of *Merchants* in all their *Sea-townes*, called the *Society* of the *Hans*, before noted: as their houses of *Staple*, yet standing at *Bridges* in *Flanders*, *Antwerpe* in *Brabant*, *Nouogrode* in *Russia*, *Bergen* in *Norwaye*, and the *Steelyard* in *London* can witnes. Which trade of theirs flourished, as long as it continued vnder *Gouernment*: but hauing lost their *pruiledges*, partly by their own *Stragling*, and partly being ouertop't by the flourishing
of

of the *Merchants Adventurers Trade*, their Trade is now almost quite fallen to the ground.

For *Spaine and Portugall*: all men know that their *Sea Trade* is little, saving to the *East and West-Indies*. And those Trades are carried with *Gouvernement*, and farre more restraint then ours.

Spaine and Portugall.

For *France*, there are not (that I know) any *Companies* of *Merchants* for forreine parts. Which I take to bee the cause, why those *Merchants* shipping, is of so small burthen, and of as little sufficiency for service. Which is an effect of a stragling vngouverned Trade.

France.

For *Italy*, that consisteth of so many severall *Invisdictions*, that it were impossible to make a generall *Corporation* for any one kinde of *Sea-trade*. For example, were it not in vaine for *Genoa* to make a *Corporation & Orders* for Trade, whilest *Florence* held a contrary course? It

Italy.

G

were

were certainly all one, as to haue a *Company* of Merchants for *Spaine* at *London*, and the *West-parts* left loose to Trade without *Order* or *Gouernment*, which were a meere mockery. But the Trade in many parts of *Italy*, being carried by *Families*, and euery *Family* being as it were one Person, there is a kind of *Gouernment* in their Trades, and the same performed with merueilous credite, policie, and iudgement.

The Nether-
lands.

The *Low Countries*, by that *Vnion* which is of the seuerall *Townes* and *Prouinces* vnder the *States Generall* (which neuerthelesse is as much, and endureth as long, as euery seuerall *Prouince* and *Towne* listeth,) haue of late yeeres erected their *East India Company*, and the like for *Guiny*, and are in hand with the like for the *West Indies*. Also the *Cloth-buyers*, the principall *Merchants of Holland*, haue lately obtained

obtained *Oſtroy* ſo termed, which is *Priviledges & Immunities* of the *States*, to aſſemble themſelues, and to keepe Courts, and make Orders for their Trade; and principally to confront & oppoſe the *Merchants-Aduenturers* Trade, vpon ſome differences, lately fallen out betwixt thoſe *Cloth-buyers* and the ſaid *Company* about the *reſidence* before noted. For their other Trades of *Germany, Poland, England, France* and *Spaine*, they rather wiſh then finde it poſſible, to ioinc the ſeueral *Townes* in one Rule and Order. And who ſo conuerſeth with that *Nation*, ſhall find that they very much complaine of the diſorders of their Trades, for want of that kinde of *Gouernment*, which many of them take notice of here in *England*: and ſome of them of late haue deſired inſtructions from hence in that behalfe. Beſides all this, theſe people as

they are borne and bred in an *United Country*, so doth their nature and disposition encline much to an *Vnion* and *Communion* in Trade. Insomuch as oftentimes they are able to worke their feates by *Confederacy* and *Combination*, against an *Incorporation* in our *Nation*. For they wisely consider, that their interest is inuolued in the *Publique*: where, in our *Nation*, men commonly preferre their *Particular*, to the *Common-good*.

And thus hauing answered the obiections against *Corporations*, of *Merchants* and *Gouerned Trades*, and shewed the many and manifold benefits arising to the *Common-wealth* thereby: It is now easie to shew the Iniury and Inconuenience to this *Common-wealth* by the want of *Gouernment* in Trade. Those that Trade without *Order* and *Gouernment*, are like vnto men, that make *Holes* in the bottome of
that

that *Ship*, wherein themselves are *Passengers*. For want of *Gouvernement* in Trade, openeth a gap and letteth in all sorts of vnskilfull and disorderly persons: and these not only *Sinke* themselves, and others with them; but also *Marre* the Merchandize of the land, both in estimation and goodnesse: then which there can bee nothing in Trade more preiudiciall to the *Publique Vtility*. And to make good these particulers, I take this for a ground: *Nemo nascitur artifex*. Which as it is true in the occupations of *Artizans*: so is it much more true in the *Trades* of *Merchants*: wherein there is so great variety of difficult points to bee learned, before a man can learne his *Stucke*, as the Dutch-men speak, or be his *Crafts master*. And how can the *Merchant*, that hath no skill in his *Commodity*, looke to it, that the *Maker* performe his

part? Or how can a falsified Commodity, hold his estimation and vse? The ill experience whereof, is not more remarqueable in any of His *Maiesties* subiects, then in those that trade into the *Dominions* of the *King of Spaine*, without Order or *Gouernment* in Trade. For at the beginning of His *Maiesties* most happy Raigne ouer this *Kingdome*, this Trade by His *Maiesties* Princely fauour, was made a *Corporation* and *Societie* of Merchants, and flourished vnder *Gouernment*. And then the new *Draperies*, and other the *Natiue Commodities* of the *Kingdome* were maintained in their estimation and goodnesse at *Home* and *Abroad*: But soone after by the clamour of some who preferred their owne liberty, to the vtility of the publique, and by some misinformation giuen the *Parliament* of that time, this *Company* after it had flourished

two yeares, was dissolued, and euer since exposed to confusion and disorder in Trade, and is become a receptacle and *Rendes-vous* for euery Shopkeeper, Stragler, and Vnskilful person: and may serue for a liuely representation of the hopes that may be expected, by such a loose trade, as many now a daies so much desire, not rightly conceiuing or considering the benefit of *Gouernment*, nor the Inconueniencies that doe perpetually accompany trade in the want thereof. Which in the *Effects* will be more *Perspicuous*, to which in their Order we now proceede.

C A P. V.

*Of the Effects of the former
Causes as they concerne
the KING.*

SUCH were the *Causes* considered in the *Matter* and *Forme* of
G 4 trade

trade. The *Effects* follow : which doe either concerne the KING, or the *Common-wealth*.

Such as are the *Causes*, such also must needs be the *Effects* arising from the same : and those doe either respect the KING in point of *Honour*, or in point of *Renew* : and both in the *Matter* and *Forme* of Trade.

Effects to the
King in point
of Honour.

In point of *Honour*, there is a relation to the KING from the *Matter* of Trade, considered *Generally*, or *Specially*.

Generally, in the generall neglect of all trades, by remerous, rash, and litigious suites of law : whereby the *Peace* of the *Kingdome* is disturbed, the *Iustice* thereof abused, and in both the KING dishonoured.

Or *Specially* in some speciall *Commerce* of this *Kingdome*, abused by the KINGS Subjects, or Strangers. By the KINGS Subjects, in the *Drapery* of the *Kingdome*, when

His

HIS *Majesties* *Seale of Armes*, which, as I said, is, *Testis omni exceptione maior*, shall be dishonoured by false Cloth and other Manufactures, that are vnworthily honoured therewith: and whereby, those that buy the same both *within* and *without* the Land, are perswaded the same is good and true, when the same is vtterly false: which is a great indignity offered to the KING.

By *Strangers*, in the *East India* *Action*, and the matter of *Fishing*. In the *East India* *Action* certainly the *KINGS Honour* is interested; not onely to protect his subiects against the Iniuries done them by the *Dutch* in the *East Indies*; but also to maintaine the *Glory and Renowne*, of *HIS Sacred Fame*, which hath heretofore beene *Illustrious* even vnto the *Heathen*: which some haue dared to doe what they could to obscure. The
Fishing

Fishing hath also reference to the *KINGS Honour*: for it is a *Royalty* of the *Crowne*, which the *KING* in Honour cannot but protect.

There is also an *Effect* that extendeth it selfe to the *KINGS Honour* in the *Forme* of Trade, as it is *too strict*, or *too loose*. *Too strict*, in respect of *Monopolies*, wherein the *Prerogative of the KING* is abused, and therein *HIS Honour* also, by those that thereby seeke to priuiledge and Patronize things vnlawfull.

Too loose, in the disorderly Trade of the subiects out of *Gouernment*. For those *Strangers* that haue not beene in our *Coun- trey*, nor seene the Order of *HIS Maiesties Gouernment*, must needes *Ex vngue Leonem*, guesse at the *Soueraigne* by the *Subiect*: And like to *Archimedes* who drew the whole pourtraiture of *Hercules* body, by his footstep onely found in Mount

Mount *Olympus*, proportion the Royall and Regall Government of His Maiestie At home, by the deportment of his subiects Abroad. And as the Orderly Trade of Merchants is an Honour to the KING, when the same is contained within the listes of Government; so the contrary cannot choose but produce a quite contrary effect.

In point of Reuenue the KINGS treasure is diminished, in the Matter also and Forme of Trade. In the Matter of Trade, eyther in the General course of Trade, or in some Particulars. In the Generall, the great want of money, and decay of Trade throughout all callings and conditions of men, must needes cause a great diminution of His Maiesties Reuenue, both in His Customs and Supplies. For the Customs, those perpetually rise and fall with Trade: And for Supplies, the subiects beeing impou-
shed

In point of
Reuenue.

shed through want of Money and decay of Trade, are disabled to doe that seruice to His *Maiesty*, which otherwise they would be willing, and heretofore haue beene able to performe, in flourishing times of Trade. And if our experience hereof had beene in the *Scapin* and not in the *ceſſe*, in the *Contemplation* only, and not in *Action*: we had been much more happy in this *Kingdom* and *Nation*.

In the *particular* course of Trade, it shall content me to instance onely the *East India Action*, and the *Fishing*, before referred to the *KINGS Honour*, here to His *Revenue*. By the *East India Action* there is a very great losse to the *KING* in His *Customes*, by the losse of all the *Custom* which that Trade would haue produced in all this time: and of the *Encrease* also of *Trade*, which that employment had brought with it, which would haue

haue yeelded to His Maieſty a great Increase of *Customes* answerable to the same. Of both which if we had not beene depriued, certainly His Maieſties *Ferme* of His *Customes* had yeelded *Many Thousand pounds a yeare*, more then now they haue done.

By the *Fishing*, the *Customes* and *Tolles* which are vndoubtedly due to His Maieſtie for the Strangers *Fishing* vpon our *Coasts*, together with the encrease of Trade, and consequently of *Customes* thereby also, wold amount to so great a value, that I cannot wonder enough, that the same hath beene neglected all this while.

And lastly in the *Forme* of Trade, the *KINGS Reuenue* is mightily diminished, when by the disorder of Trade, the very course of Trade is inuerted, and therein the *KINGS Customes* and *Subsidies* also.

CAP. VI.

*Of the Effects of the former Causes
as they concerne the Com-
mon-wealth.*

FROM the KING, come to the *Kingdome*. Wherein there are also manifold *Effects* of the precedent *Causes*, both in the *Matter* and *Forme* of *Trade*.

And although in the very same things, wherein the *Honour* and *Revenue* of the KING are inuested, the *Wealth* of the *Common-wealth* is also interested; yet the same may otherwise be distinguished, that so they may bee made the more perspicuous and cleere to euery mans iudgement.

The *Effects* then that arise out of the *Matter* of *Trade* and fall vp-

Effects to the
Common-
wealth Actiue
and Passiue.

on

on the *Kingdome*, may be saide to be either *Active* or *Passive*. *Active*, when they are done by *Our Selues*: *Passive*, when they are done to vs by *others*. *Active*, in the vse of Law, either *Too much*, or *Too little*. *Too much*, in *Suits of Law*, whereby one subiect vexeth another: which make this peaceable *Kingdome* seeme to be at Warre within it selfe. For whilest men are thus at *Deadly Feude* in Law, by the losse of their Times, and Trades, and States; the thrift of the *Commonwealth* must needs bee neglected. *Too little*, In the *Non-Execution* of *Lawes*, which tend either to the enlargement of *Clothing*, or the restraint of the Excesse of the *Kingdome*. The *Former* is, either in respect of the *Ill searching* and *Sealing* of Cloth, or in the *Transportation* of the *Materials* of our Cloth before mentioned. In the *former* of these, the *Merchants Aduenturers* can

can giue you an account of *Tenne thousand pounds* a yeare at least losse to this *Commō-wealth*, by the *Tare* or abatements vpon the *Cloath* in *forreine* parts, for the false making and scaling thereof: Besides the other *Effects* of the decay of the *Drapery* it selfe, and other *Trades* depending thereon, the losse whereof is vnualuable. In the *Latter*, euery man is sensible of the losse to the *Common-wealth*, in robbing it of the *Materials*: whereby not onely our *Draperies* are *Impaired*, but the *Forreine* also are thereby much *Improued*.

Also the want of restraint of the *Excesse* of the *Kingdome*, in *Vsury* and *Prodigality*: the one beeing a *Viper* in a *Kingdome* that gnaweth through the bowels thereof: the other a *Canker* that fretteth and wasteth the stocke, in spending the *forreine* wares, more then it ven-
teeth

teth of our owne : both and either doe produce intollerable effects in a wel ordered *Kingdome* and *Common-wealth*.

Or *Passive*, in the ill *Effects* that fall vpon the *Kingdome*, in things done to vs by *Others*. And that either by *Friends* or *Foes*. *The Former* is done by *Imposition*, or *Vsurpation*. By *Imposition*, in the *Merchants Adventurers Trade* in *Holland*: where there is lately taxed vpon a Pack Cloth 9. *Gilders*, vpon a long Cloth 18. *Gilders*, and vpon a fine Cloth 24. *Gilders*, which is 18. 36. and 48. shillings of our money. And yet neuerthelesse they free their owne Countrey Cloth of all manner of charge ; nay, they giue encouragement to the makers thereof by many *Priviledges and Immunities* : whereby it is more then manifest that they do what in them lyeth, to *Plant* their owne *Draperies*, and to *Supplant*

ours, to the infinite disadvantage of this *Kingdome*.

By *Vsurpation*, those Friends of ours, deprivie vs of our *East India Trade*, and *Fishing*, which here againe occurre, and offer themselves for this purpose also. By the *Former*, the *Common-wealth* hath not onely been dispossessed all this while of so great a *Stocke*, as is that of the *East India Company*, but of the employment and encrease of *Trade* also, that thereby in all this time would haue accrewed vnto this *Kingdome*. And it is to be feared, that their policy is not onely to deprivie the *Company* of their *Stocke*, but the *Kingdome* also of the *Trade*: which they thinke too great and glorious a *Fortune* for this *Common-wealth* to enioy, and the onely hope of their's. And hence it is that the *Restitution* is so hard to be had, because they thinke by detaining it, and spinning out the

the time, they shall in time *Weary* and *Weare* vs out of that Trade: And so in the meane while, by *Plowing* vp those *Indian Seas* and *Soyle* with our *Heifers*, they may at last *Reape* all the *Haruest*, and possesse and dispossesse at their owne pleasure, to the wonderfull enriching of their *Common-wealth*, and the impouerishing of *our's*.

By the latter, to wit, their *Fishing* upon our *Coasts*, the *Common-wealth* looseth that which they gaine: which is merueilous increase of *Trade*, of *Shippes*, and *Marriners*. Whereby their *Nauigation* is mightily *Sirengthened*, their *Marriners* *multiplied*, and their *Trade* encreased: Of all which this *Common-wealth* is deprived, and *their's* enriched.

By *Foes* also this *Common-wealth* is lamentably *Passue*, in the *Cruelty* done by *Turkish Pirats* vpon our *Men* and *Ships*, and *Goods*.

The griefe is lamentable, the losse intollerable.

Lastly, there are ill Effects that fall vpon the *Common-wealth* in the *Forme of Trade*: and that in respect of *Monopolies*, or *Vngouerned Trade*. By the *Former*, this *Common-wealth* is depriued of that true liberty of Trade, which belongeth to all the subiects: when the Commodity of some few, is preferred to the publique good.

By the *Latter*, which is most remarkable in the Trade of His *Maiesties* subiects into the Dominions of the *King of Spaine*, and the *Mediterrane Sea*; the Trade of this *Kingdome* consisting in *Bayes*, *Perpetuanoes*, *Kersies*, *Waxe*, *Tinne*, *Lead*, and other the *Natiue Commodities* of this *Kingdome*, is betrayed into the hands, both of those with whom we are in *Amitie*, and others that are with vs in *Enmity*. The one taketh aduantage of our vnmarchant-

merchant-like courses for lacke of Order: The other, of our Shippes sent forth stragling for lacke of Fleets: and both through want of *Gouernment in Trade*. Whereby the *Perpetuanoes* and other *new Draperies* haue by little and little bin made worse and worse, so that now they are become quite out of vse, the *Trade lost*, the *Traders ruined*, the *Manuactures by other Nations supplied*, the *Nauigation hindered*, by the losse of many worthy men, and *Seruiceable Shippes*: Inall which, the *Decay of Trade* is exceeding Great, the *Commonwealth's losse Infinite*.

H3

C A P.

CAP. VII.

Of the Remedy for all the former Causes of decay of Trade.

HAuing shewed the many and manifold *Causes* of the decay of Trade in the *Matter* and *Forme* thereof: It remaineth now to present the *Remedy*. Which according to the precedent Method, I will apply vnto all the particulars in their order. Onely the *Remedies* for the *Effects*, I shall present in the *Causes*: for the *Causes* being remoued, the *Effects* must needs cease, according to the common *Maxime* in *Philosophy*, *Sublatâ causâ tollitur effectus*.

In my former distribution I considered the *Causes* of the decay of Trade, in the *Matter* and *Forme* thereof: and in the *Matter* I insisted on *Money* and *Merchandize*. The *Causes* of the want of money, I shewed some to be *Immediat*;
some

some *Mediat* or remote. The *Immediat* Causes, I noted to be such, as either hinder the *Importation*; or such as cause the *Exportation*; and both in the *Vnder-valuation* of His *Maiesties* Coine. The *Remedy* offer's it selfe, which is double. First, how it may be got: and next how it may be kept. *The former* may be done two wayes: By Raising of the *KINGS* Coine; and by making current *Forreine Coines* at equall value. Wherin it is to be obserued, that the more the *Coynage* is abated, the lesse the *Coyne* it selfe need to be raised. *The latter*, to wit, the keeping of *Money* within the land, may also be done 2. waies: By another maner of *Execution* of the Statute for *Employments* then heretofore: wherein there is some reason not to expresse my selfe as I might: And by His *Maiesties Princely and Prudent Negotiation*, with the *Princes* of our *Neigh-*

The Remedy of drawing money into the Kingdome, must needs be the raising thereof

And by making forreine Coines current at like value.

bour Countries, the *States* of the v.
nited *Prouinces* especially, to keepe
a more constant course in the va-
lues of their *Coines*. Neither of
which can be done by that *Par* of
Exchange, which is now againe in
agitation, and hath taken more then
twenty yeeres to bring it to perfe-
ction. Wherein, *absit invidia ver-*
bo, that I say, there is neither *Pa-*
rity, nor *Purity*. For it is not the
rate of Exchanges, but the value of
monies, here lowe, elswhere high,
which cause their Exportation:
nor doe the Exchanges, but the
plenty or scarcity of monies cause
their values. Or if I should grant
that to be the cause which is not:
yet it doth not follow, that because
the *Stranger*, like enough, would
be a deliuerer heere of money at a
high rate, that therefore the Eng-
lish must take it. And then the
consequence will be ill: for if the
rate be such as the *Taker* like not,
then

then the *Deliverer* is yet more thrust vpon the exportation. But I leaue this Proiect to whom it is committed, with this, that his opinion seemes to be *eiusdem farinae*, with another of the same, in his *Canker of Englands Commonwealth*, in these words: *And it were to be wished, that our Cloth were sold at so deare a rate, and according to the price of forreine Commodities, that thereby other nations would take vpon them to make our Clothes themselves: which might easily bee remedied, by selling our woolles the dearer, whereof they must make them.* Which seemes to haue in it much more *Dutch* then *English*, to de- priue this *Kingdome* of so Royall a Manufacture, whereby so many thousands of poore families, are maintained in the same: as if hee would cure one Canker with another, contrary to our *Sauours Argument*, that Satan cannot cast out Satan.

Canker of
Englands
Common-
wealth. p. 46.
published in
An. 1601.

Satan. But I returne to mine owne *Station*: and therein to answer the obiections that doe occurre the raising of *Money*: which are wont to be principally, either the continuall *Raising* of it, to follow the *Rising* of forreine Coine; or else the inevitable losse that thereby will fall, *Generally* vpon all men in the endearing of all things; and *Particularly* vpon *Landlords* and *Creditors*, in their rents and contracts.

The obiections
against
raising of
money, an-
swered.

For the continuall *Raising* of the Coine, that will be needlesse, if the meanes be sufficient for executing the *Statute* for *employments*, whereby the *Money* may be kept within the land when we haue it. And for the dearenesse of things, which the *Raising* of *Money* bringeth with it, that will be abundantly recompensed vnto all in the plenty of *Money*, and quickning of Trade in euery mans hand. And that which is equall to all, when hee that buye's
deare

deare shall sell deare, cannot bee said to be iniurious vnto any. And it is much better for the *Kingdome*, to haue things deare with plenty of *Money*, wherebymen may liue in their seuerall callings: then to haue things cheape with want of *Money*, which now makes euery man complaine.

Lastly, for *Landlords and Creditors*, their losse is easie to be preuented by *Prouiso*, that the *Contracts* made before the raising of the *Monies* shall be paide at the value the *Money* went at, when the *Contracts* were made: according to the disposition of the *Cinill Law* in this case: *Valor monetae considerandus & inspiciendus est à tempore contractus, non autem à tempore solutionis.*

The raising also of the *Coin*, would raise the price of *Plate*: whereby either there would bee lesse superfluity that way, or else
more

*Gailius 2. lib.
Observat. cap.
73.*

more old *Plate*, which perhaps in some mens hands is kept vp for *Treasure*, would be brought out, to be molten into *Coin*.

The *Mediate* or *Remote Causes* of the want of *Money*, I obserued to bee either *Domestique* or *Forreine*. The *Domestique*, *Generall* or *Speciall*. The *Generall*, the great *Excesse* of the *Kingdome*, in consuming the *Commodities* of *forreine* Countries in such abundance, to our owne losse. And amongst those, the great *excesse* in *Tobacco* is none of the least: which if it might seeme good to the High *Wisedome* of His *Majestie*, to restraine, or at least to giue a tolleration of the *Virginia* and *Barmudo's* only: there might be a great deale of *Pietie* and *Policy* shewed in this *Remedy*. For in the one respect, it would tend to a great enriching of that plantation, which so happily succeedeth through Gods blessing: and

A Remedy
for excesse.

and in the other it would aduan-
tage the KING and the *Kingdome*,
in the redresse of the disorder of
the *Spanish Trade*, and in bringing
in *Treasure* in stead of that *Toye*,
more then the Rent that is now rai-
sed to His *Maiestie* for the same,

The Superfluity of other Com-
modities may bee restrained by
lawes *Vestiary* and *Sumptuary*, ac-
cording to the example of *Germany*
& other our Neighbor Countries.

The *Speciall Remote Cause* of our
want of *Money*, I noted to bee the
want of our *East India Stocke* in the
Common-wealth. The *Remedy* wher-
of, is in the *Princely Power and Gra-
tious Favour* of His *Maiestie* to
apply at His pleasure, to this
Languishing body. And if His
Sacred Maiestie will vouchsafe to
apply His *Gratious Month*, to *this*
Month: His waking *Eye*, to *this*
Eye: His powerfull *Hand* to *this*
Hand: then surely this fainted
Body

A Remedy
for want of
Money in the
remote cause
thereof.

A Remedy of
the Warres of
Christians.

Body will receiue *Breath* and *Life*,
from the powerfull influence of so
Great a Maiestie, and reuiue also the
many other *fainting* Trades, that
are fallen in it. The *Forreine Re-*
remote Causes, I obserued to be the
Warres in Christendome, or the
Trades maintained with ready *Mo-*
ney Out of Christendome. The for-
mer, either cause the *Exportation*
of *Money*, as do the *Warres of Chri-*
stians: or hinder the *Importation*
thereof, as doe the *Warres of Pi-*
rats. A *Remedy* in the former of
these I know none, besides that
blessed disposition in His *Maiesty*
to spare no *Cost* to make *Peace*:
which hath made His *Fame* shine
as farre as the *Sunne* shineth, and
shall last as long as the *Sunne* and
Moone endureth: and as sure as
the *Lord* is faithfull, will be re-
membred on His *Posterity* for e-
uer: Besides this I say, I know none,
but *Patience* and *Prayer*: that God
would

would auert the heavy Iudgments at this day on the Christian world, and giue vs grace to consider *Our* peace, in this *Our day* thereof. A Remedy in the latter, may be either by reducing of the stragling trade of *HIS MAIESTIES* subiects into the Dominions of the *King of Spaine*, into *Gouernment*; whereby they also might goe in Fleetes, as other gouerned Companies doe, and the better defend themselues against so *Common* and *Cruel* an enemy: or else by seeking restitution of our wrongs in this kinde, where it may be had: so farre as it may concurre with the *Honour* of the KING, to whose Great and Princes iudgement, I submit the same.

The Remedy for the *Exportation* of Money out of *Christendome* by the Trades before mentioned, dependeth much on the good Conclusion hoped for, betweene the *Dutch* and our *Nation*. Whereby
not

A Remedy of
disorderly
Trade.

A Remedy
for the ex-
portation of
Money out
of Christen-
dome.

not only the *Indian Commodities*, which in those Trades are the principall, may be bought much better cheape, and consequently spare a great deal of the *Treasure* now issued out for the same: but also, the *Native Commodities* of either Country, and as much as may bee of euery Country, may be brought into *Trade* and *Traine* with the *Indians*, and aduanced in their vse and price: that so at last in stead of Money for Wares, we may giue Wares for Wares according to the Law and nature of *Commerce*. And this good conclusion betweene the *Dutch* and *Vs*, is the rather to bee wished, and the more to be hastened, because the subtilty of the *Indians* is great, in taking aduantage of this vnhappy *Faction*, or rather *Fraction*, that is fallen betwixt vs. For those that haue trauelled the *Indies*, and obserued those people can tell, that the *Indians* doe ascribe

ascribe so much to the light of their vnderstanding, that they doe account the rest of the world blinde in Comparison of them. Only they vouchsafe to the people of *Europe* this honour, to call them *One Eied men*. Which also *Masseius* taketh notice of, in his History of the *Indies*, that those people dare beyond modesty thus to brag; *Chinenses duos habere oculos; Europæos unum; & quod hominum est reliquum, cacutire. That the Chineses haue two Eies, the Europeans one, and all the rest of the people of the world are blinde.* And indeed they doe approoue themselues to be *Quicke-sighted* enough: for they are the *Antipodes* of *Christians*, and are in scituation farthest remote from them, and yet can finde the *Meanes*, to pry into the *Mines* and *Treasure* of the Christian world. And therefore I say, it is high time that the *Dutch* and *We left Darting*

I

at

*Ioan. Perr.
Masseius Hist.
Ind. lib. 6.*

at one another, and so ioine together, that as with one *Hand*, and one *Heart*, and if they will needs haue it so, *with that one Eie*, we may collect and contract our sharpest sence & sight into it; that as it is said, some *Monoculists*, by the sharpnesse of the sence drawne to one Eie, see better with that, then both: we may at last put this remedy in practife, that we seem no longer blind men, to those *Indian* people. But herein on both parts, are we humbly to implore His *Majesties* Regall *Intercession*, that these differences, betwixt the *Dutch* and *Vs*, may no longer *Hang in suspense*, but at last be drawne to that happy and hopefull *Period* wee haue so long looked & longed for. That so the *Majesty* of the KING, arising like the *Glory* of the *Sun-rising* vpon this our *Horizon*, may dispell and disperse all the tempestuous *Mists* and *Fogges*, that haue obscured

red the same; and lend such a glorious *Light* and *Life* vnto this *Orbe* of ours, that *They* & *We*, like louers and friends fallen at oddes, may be reintegrated, renewed, and reunited, in vnfaigned *Amitie* and *Vnity*, that the name of *Hostilitie* betwixt *Them* and *Us*, be neuer hereafter told in *Gath*, nor publish't in the streets of *Ashcalon*: And that the Publike complaints aswell of their * *Own*e people, as *Ours*, may no longer come vnder the view and censure of the world.

Another *Remedy* of this kinde, may bee *HIS MAIESTIES* gracious protection of the *Persian Trade* now so happily set on foote: that so neither the Enuy of any at Home; nor the *Power* or *Policy* of any abroad, supplant vs in the same. Whereby the *Cloth* and *Tinne*, and other the *Natine Commodities* of this *Kingdome*, may be brought into *Vse* and *Commerce* a-

* In a Translation out of a *Dutch* Coppy, lately published in *Holland* by the *Dutch* themselves: in the face or Title whereof, these words are vased: *That notwithstanding the extreme wrongs done by the MAIORS to the English Nation, Trading to the East Indies; yet it is the Justice of God, they thrive not with it themselves.*

Printed 26.
Iune, 1622.

Another Remedy of the former kinde.

mongst the *Persians* also. Which through Gods blessing, and his *Maiesties Royall Assistance*, may be a means to draw the whole Trade of the *Persian* filke into this *Kingdom*, and make it the *Magazin* thereof, for the supply of other Nations: to the weakning of the *Turkes* power, the increase of Trade in this *Common-wealth*, and with it H I S *Maiesties* Customes, the Nauigation, and employment of the poore: to the Great Honour of the K I N G, and enriching of all H I S *Kingdomes*.

And so much for the *Remedies* about the *matter* of Trade in *Money*; the *Merchandize* followeth. Which I considered *Jointly*, or *Apart*. The things that hindred the whole Trade, I noted to be *Deficient*, as the want of *Money*, or the *East India Stocke*, which haue their *Remedy* before: or *Efficient*, as *Vsury* and *Litigious Suits of law*, to the *Remedies* whereof we now proceede.

A Remedy
for Viary.

The *Remedy* for *Vsury*, may be

plenty of *Money*. For then, men will haue no such cause to take *Money* at interest, as when *Money* is scant. For as it is the scarcitie of *Money* that maketh the high rates of interest: so the plentie of *Money* will make the rates low, better then any Statute for that purpose. For although in the *Netherlands*, it is lawfull for a man to take twenty in the hundred if he can get it: (wherein it seemes the Author of the Tract against *Vsury* was misinformed,) yet there, commonly money is let at 6. and 7. in the hundred, by reason of the plenty of *Money*.

Or there is another Remedy for *Vsury*, in giuing liberty to the subjects, if so it may seeme good to His *Maiesties High Wisedome*, to buy and sell, and to transport Billes of debt from man to man: according to the Custome of *Germany* and the *Low Countries*. Which is found

Another Remedy for *Vsury*.

to be an excellent meanes to supply mens wants in course of trade; and tendeth also to the enlarging thereof. And for the *Extorsion* vpon the poore aboue noted: if a stocke of Money were raised in manner of a *Lumbard*, or otherwise in *London*, and in the *Countries* where much poore depend on Clothing, and else-where where there is cause, whereby the multitudes of poore wherewith the *Kingdom* swarmeth, might be from time to time supplied for a small consideration; it would certainly giue great encouragement to the poore to labour, it would set on worke many fatherlesse children that are ready to sterue, it would benefit the *Common-wealth* by their labours, and it would be an acceptable worke to *Almighty God*, so to supply their wants, and not to suffer the faces of the poore to be ground by the extorsion of any.

And

And I am perswaded, that euery good man would be willing, either to giue, or to lend, toward the raising of a stocke of *Money* for this purpose.

For *Litigious suits of Law*, if men bestowed halfe that study and cost in trade, which now adaies is spent in temerous and rash suits of Law; surely the benefite that thence would arise to the *Common-wealth*, would equall or exceede in value, that which is spent in Law, which I thinke cannot be valued. The *Remedy* requireth great consideration, for such is the Cause.

That the *suites of Law* in this *Kingdome* are now infinitely increast, to that they were in elder times, I thinke it is out of question: The *Quere* is about the cause thereof. *Litigious suits of Law*, may seeme anciently to haue beene restrained, either by *Sureties*, or *Fines*, or both. *Of the Former* there is

Remedies for
litigious suits
of Law.

yet a defaced print in the Common-Pledges of *Doe and Roe*. Which were of old the names of true and reall sureties, but are now become formall only, and faigned names of Course and Solemnity. Whence also it is, that in stead of Reall sureties in *London*, faigned sureties are deuised from the dwelling of the party *Plaintife*: As for example: if the plaintife dwell in *Cheape-side*: they enter for his Sureties vpon the Record of Court, *John Cheape*, and *Richard Side*. And in like manner where soeuer else the *Plaintife* dwelleth.

Of the Latter, to wit of *Fines*, the vse of them both in the *Kings Bench*, & *Common-Pleas*, continueth vnto this day. In the *Kings Bench* the *Fines* are not so ancient, for those began in the 8. yeare of His *Maiesties* Happy raigne ouer this *Kingdome*: neither are they of like value to those of the *Common-Pleas*.
Where-

Whereof His Maiestie made then a Graunt to certaine Patentees for terme of yeares. But in the Common-Pleas, the Fines vpon Originall Writs, are held by the learned in the Law, to bee as ancient as the Common-Law it selfe.

Now whether the vse of Sureties, or the Institution of Fines, were inuented for the restraint of Ligitious suits of Law: or the Disuse and inequality of them, tendeth to the encrease thereof; I humbly leaue that, to the wisdom and iudgement of the Reuerend Iudges, and others learned in the Law: least I seeme *מורחק מן הדבר*. Neuerthelesse there seemes to me, to be a print of them, in the Lawes and Customes of Forreine Nations. For which, if you please, let vs heare MAIMON a great RABBI. HEBRÆI, *litigiosum hominum genus*, saith he, *duplum rependere coegerunt, qui debitum scienter denegaret.* Also

מורה
נבוכים
Maimon lib. 3.

*Bodin. de Rep.
lib. 6.*

Also FESTVS POMPEIVS, cited by BODIN. *Romani decimam partem eius rei, quæ in controuersiam veniret in priuatis, aut qui tam in publicis iudijs, imperabant. Ac licet Romani in Republica libera, Vectigalia & tributa imperare sibi difficilimè paterentur, Vectigalia tamen Iudiciaria patienter tulerunt.*

*In Part. iuris.
De Actionib.*

Also HOTTO MAN. *Romani Sacramentum constituerunt, certam viz. pecuniæ summam, ut qui iudicio vicisset, suum sacramentū auferret, victi autē ad ararium rediret.*

De Rep. lib. 6.

And lastly BODIN. *Carolus nonus Vectigal Iudiciarium ad cohibendam litigatorum hominum indomitam atque effrenatam licentiam imperauit. Quo vix vllum afflictis ararij opibus utilius, & Gallia Imperio litium innumerabili multitudine oppresso, splendidius cogitari poterat.*

There is also in France an excellent

lent restraint of Law suits, by a *Law Merchant*, established in *Roan*, *Lions*, and *Tholosa*: whereby the other higher Courts of Iustice are eased of those Knotty questions that often fall out in matters of *Commerce*, which are harder to bee determined by the learned in the Law, and not so hard for Merchants and men of Trade.

Like to which, is that of the *Court of Conscience*, and the office for *Pollicies of Assurance* in London. The one granted by an Act of Parliament, in the 3. yeare of *HIS MAiesties* happy Raigne, the other by the Statute of 43. *Eliz.* And both are executed by *Merchants* and men of Trade; though in the latter the Statute ioi-
neth certaine Ciuill and Common Lawyers with them in Commission, to assist them when there is cause: because such Assurances are grounded on the Ciuill Law. By
which

which meanes His *Majesties* other Courts of Iustice are eased of the multiplicitie of Questions that might arise by suits of Law of this kinde.

And thus hauing been bold to make this short Relation of my poore obseruation herein, I most humbly submit this *Remedy* to the High wisdom of His *Majestie*, to dispose thereof in such Manner and Measure, as the Nature and Number of the suits of Law, at this day in this Kingdom doe require. In the restraint whereof, His *Majestie* shall haue great Honour: His *Kingdoms* Peace: the *Iudges* Ease: the *Subiects* Quietnesse, and the *Common-wealth* increase of Trade.

Remedies for
Ordinance,

The Trades considered *Apart*, I reduced to such, as tend to the *Fortification of the Kingdom*, or *Maintenance of Trade*. The former I noted to be *Ordinance* or *Munition*.

In

In which case the *Philosopher* gi-
ueth good Counsell, *Δει γὰρ αἶν ὁ σὺν μὴ*
σίουτα, μὴ γὰρ δὲ ὁ σὺν φιλοῦντα. *Sic aman-*
dum tanquàm sis osurus, sic oportet
odisse tanquàm sis amaturus.

Bias;

The latter I reduced to *Fishing*
and *Clothing*, as the *Nurseries* of
Trade. For the *Fishing*, the infinite
treasure that Strangers search out
of our Seas, the variety of Trade
that thereby they purchase, the
multitude of *Mariners* they breed,
the Fleets of Shipping they main-
taine, me thinkes should euery of
them apart, or all of them toge-
ther, be vnto vs as so many prouo-
cations to rouze vs vp to the exer-
cise thereof: Whereby His Ma-
iestie might receiue such a Tolle or
Custome of them, as other Princes
doe in like case, and be once againe
Lord and Master of the Seas, for all
the dispute of the Author of *Mare*
liberum: and the Natiue subiect en-
couraged by some Immunity or
Priuiledge,

The Reme-
dy for Fi-
shing.

Qua non pro-
sunt singula,
multa inuant.
De remed.

Priuiledge, to lay hold on that benefit, which God and Nature hath brought home to our doores.

For the *Clothing*, that also is a point of *State* and *great consequence*. The *Causes* of the decay whereof, I obserued to bee either *Domestique* or *Forreine*. The *Domestique* some *Past*, some *Present*. In which former, it may perhaps seeme strange, to speake of a *Remedy* for a thing past. Wherein the best Remedy I can thinke of, is, to be warned by those harmes, not to disturbe or distract Trade vpon any suggestion, though neuer so specious. It is a safe rule, that in *Rebus nouis constituendis evidens esse debet utilitas*. And in *Proiects*, though they promise much, yet the vtility is commonly *Contingent*, which may be, or may not be. But in the mutation of the naturall course of Trade, there ought to be *Perspicuity* and *Apparency* of
Euidens

Evident Vtility : Else a *Breach* may be sooner made in Trade then can be repaired : and the *Current* once diuerted, will hardly bee reuolued, into it genuine *Source* and *Course* againe.

The present *Domestique Causes* of the Decay of *Clothing*, I considered in the Trade vnder the *Clothier*, or vnder the *Merchants*. Vnder the *Clothier*, I noted the *Ill making* and *False sealing* of Cloth : and both through the *Non-execution* of the Statute of 4. of the KING. The abuse wherof is growne to be very great, and the reformation hath beene by His *Majesties* Proclamations and otherwise, so much and so oft attempted of late yeares, and nothing therein effected, that it seemeth a very difficult matter to reforme the same. Neuerthelesse if it may please His *Majestie*, to commit the care of the execution of the Statute, to some of the Principall

The Remedy
for Clothing.

The Remedy
for Clothing.

Examples of
Worcester, Col-
chester, and
Canterbury.

cipall Cities and Townes in the Clothing Counties, where Broad Clothes, Kerfies, and Perpetuanoes are made; and to make them the *Overseers* mentioned in the Statute, instead of those ignorant and negligent *Searchers*, with reasonable allowance for their paines; I am confident it would proue a singular Remedy. For we haue not only the example of the *Low Countries*, where this course is taken, but also here with vs: as *Worcester* for that sort of Clothes, *Colchester* for Bayes, and *Canterbury* for Sayes. In all which places the former abuses are remoued by this means; and the Clothes, and Bayes, and Manufactures of those Cities, triumph in great credit and estimation. Which execution of the saide Statute, is the rather to be committed to the care and charge of the principall Cities and Townes in the Clothing Counties; because
by

by ancient Statutes not repealed, all Clothes and Kerfies ought to bee brought to the next City, Borough, or Towne Corporate, to be sealed, before they be put to sale. And if such Clothes so sealed, proue defectiue, that Corporation or Towneship that so hath sealed them, shall forfeit the whole value thereof.

The reformation of which abuse will redound to the benefit of the *Clothier*, as well as the *Merchant*. For none is more hurt with false Cloth, then that Clothier which maketh true Cloth: because his markets are alwayes hurt by the cheapnesse that false Cloth may be afforded at. Therefore to facilitate this Remedy, I haue made a collection of all the principall Cities and Townes in the Clothing Counties for this purpose, as by a list thereof, fixed to the end of this discourse may appeare, that so a

K

worke

4. C. 5. P. 6
M. 5.

A Remedy
for the ex-
portation of
Wools.

worke of this nature be no longer deferred, wherein the *Honour of the KING*, and the *Benefit of the Publique* are so much inuolued.

Vnder the *Merchant* I obserued the Cloth-Trade to suffer at *Home* and *Abroad*: At *Home*, either by exporting the *Materials* of Clothing, or by Ore-lading the Cloth-Trade with charge. The Remedy in the former, were to lay a restraint of exportation of Wools and Wool-fels out of *Ireland*, and to quicken the execution of the Statute for that purpose in *England*, by encouraging the discoverers of such abuses.

The latter is the Sur-charging of the Cloth Trade, either generally or specially: this last, in the Impositions and Imprest monies imposed by the *Merchants Aduenturers*: which as it is a charge laid vpon the *Drapery* of the *Kingdome*, I conceiue, vnder *fauour*, is a matter
that

that trencheth into the Supreme power and dignity of the KING, and is peculiar to HIM alone. And if for *Gouernment*, or other iust causes in *Societies* and *Corporations*, there be a necessity of paying of debts, or defraying of necessary charge; I should thinke it better policy to spare the *Cloth*, and other the *Natiue Commodities* of the *Kingdom*, and to implore HIS MAiesties fauour, to leuy such charge vpon the *Forreine Commodities*: according to the Counsell of *Stephanus*, *Si Vectigal nouum enitari non potest, tunc onerentur merces peregrinae, quae ad luxum magis quam ad necessitatem faciunt.* And this I conceiue would be a good remedy for easing the *Cloth Trade* of the present charge vnder the Merchants: which would also bee a meanes for paying of their debts, with a little more length of time, and a great deale of encourage-

K 2

ment,

A Remedy
for the charge
vpon the
Cloth.

Stephan lib.
Senten.

ment, both to Clothiers and Merchants in the Cloth Trade.

And *Abroad*, if it appeare vpon examination, that the Residence of the Merchant Aduenturers at *Delft* in *Holland* be inconuenient for the Trade: As *HIS MAIESTIE* was graciously pleased to giue them that liberty for a tryall, so it may please *HIS MAIESTIE* to dispose thereof, in some more fit place for their's and the *Publique* good.

The *Forreine* Causes of the Decay of the *Drapery*, I noted to bee *Generall*, as the *Warres*; or *Speciall*, as the great *Imposition* in *Holland*. The one is the worke of *God*, the other of the *KING*, to remoue the same. To whom I recommend them both.

A Remedy
for Monopolies
and too
strict Trade.

And thus farre for the *Remedies* in the *Matter of Trade*, considered in *Money* and *Merchandize*: the *Forme* followeth in *Gouerned* and *Vngouerned Trade*. In the *Former*

I obserued a *too strict*, and in the latter a *too loose* forme of Trade. The *Remedy* in the One, if it seeme good to the high wisedome of His *Maiestie*, may be *Prinatiue*, in rasing and rooting out the name and vse of *Monopolies* from amongst this Nation, as His *Maiestie* hath royally begun in that His Gracious Proclamation before mentioned. And to free and open the course of Trade, where now it is vnequally stoppt, to the encouragement of the subiects, and the benefit of the Publique.

In the other *Positiue*, by disposing the Trades of His *Maiesties* subiects that are now distracted; into *Order* and *Gouernment*. Whereof none hath more need, as hath been shewed, then those that Trade into the Dominions of the *King of Spaine*. Whose Trade the rather calleth for redresse, because it exporteth Cloth and other the Ma-

A Remedy
for too loose
Trade.

cic. de Legib.

nufactures of the *Kingdome*, and
importeth *Treasure*, the life of
Trade: In both which there is
now a marueilous great defect, and
Trade in all mens hands become
so poore and leane, that it doth
scarce, herere ossibus. For where
Trade is disordred, and the Traders
ungouerned, there they are like a
house deuided, which cannot
long subsist: according to that of
the Orator, *Nec domus vlla, nec Ci-
uitas, nec Societas, nec Gens, nec ho-
minum vniuersum genus stare,
nec rerum natura omnis, nec
sine imperio mundus
ipse potest.*

μὴν οὐκ οὐδὲ δύναται.

The Prin-
cipall Ci-
ties and
Townes,
for execu-
tion of the
Statute for
searching
and Sea-
ling of
Cloth, are
in Coun-
ties,

Three grea-
ter

Wiltshire

Salisbury. Wilton.
Westbury. Trutridge.
Wotton-Basset. Deuizes.
Malmesbury. Chipnam.
Castlecomb. Calne.
Bradford. Bromhil.
Beckinton. Warminster.

Somersetsh.

Bath. Wells.
Fresford. Taunton.
Philips. Norton. Frome.
Somerton. Wellington.
Bridgewater. Ilminster.
Axbridge. Glastonbury.

Glocestersh.

Glocester. Tedbury.
Strowdwater. Dursley.
Wotton-vnderhedge.
Ebley. Witcomb.
Winchcomb. Thornbury.
Teuxbury. Cirencester.

Sixte lesse

Oxfordshire. Burford. Witney.

Worcesters. Worcester. Kidderminster.

Herefordshire. Hereford. Lidbury.

Warwickshire. Warwicke. Couentry.

Deuonshire. Exceter. Tanton.

Hampsh. Southampton. Portsmouth.